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DP7

DISPLACED PARANORMALS

VERSUS

PSI FORCE

BOOT CAMP BATTLEGROUND!

CONVERGENCE!

PART 1

COOL IT WITH THAT SINGSONG STUFF, WALTERS-- THIS IS A *SPARRING SESSION*, NOT SOME SCHOOL-YARD *GAME*!

SORRY, SIR!

SOUNDS LIKE JEFF IS STARTING TO GET SOME OF HIS *SENSE OF HUMOR* BACK!

C'MON, SPEEDY-- NAIL THAT PUNK!

A COUPLE MORE *PUNCHES*, WALTERS... THEN IT'S GONNA BE MY *TURN*!

SURE, *BOYD*, SURE--

WHA--? HE *SIDESTEPPED*--!

WHAT'D I *TELL* YOU, WISEMOUTH?

BOOOF!

EVERY TIME YOU DUSTED YOUR KNUCKLES AGAINST MY *SKIN*--

--I WAS *LEECHING OFF* A LITTLE MORE OF YOUR *POWER*!

SPOO

AN' NOW THAT WE'RE EQUAL IN *SPEED*, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF WHO'S THE *BETTER FIGHTER*!

YOU'RE NOWHERE *NEAR* MY LEAGUE, PAL!

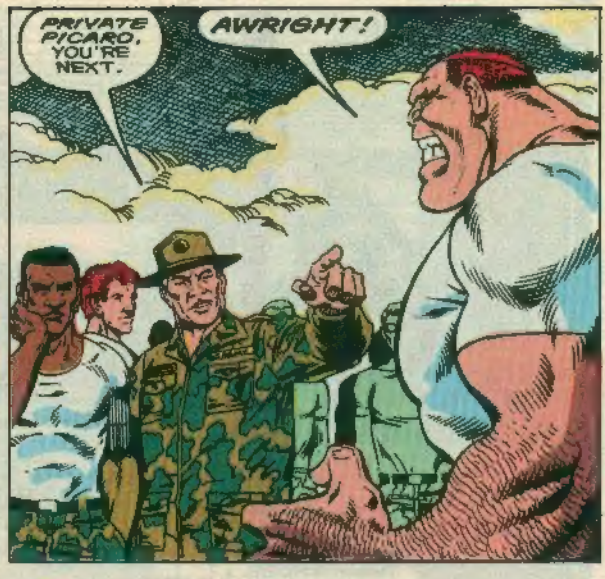
NNNGK!

HAVE I *WON*, SERGEANT, OR YOU WANT ME TO *NAIL* HIM A FEW MORE TIMES TO BE SURE?

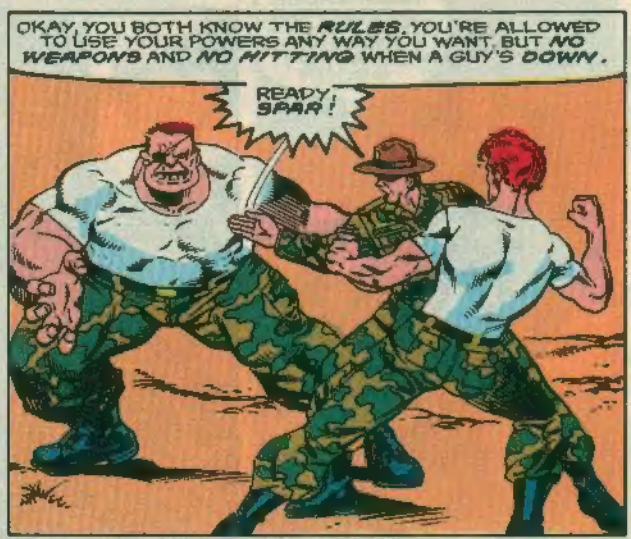
THIS MATCH IS *YOURS*, PRIVATE.

MAN, THAT BOYD IS A *VICIOUS CREEP*. HOPE I DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT HIM.

I'M... OKAY, SARGE.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO OVERCONFIDENT. I HOPE I DON'T GET CUT FROM THE A-TEAM BECAUSE OF THIS.
YOU UP FOR ANOTHER MATCH, PRIVATE, OR YOU NEED A BREATHER?
I'M UP, SERGEANT HALOBMAN.


PRIVATE PICARO, YOU'RE NEXT.
AWRIGHT!

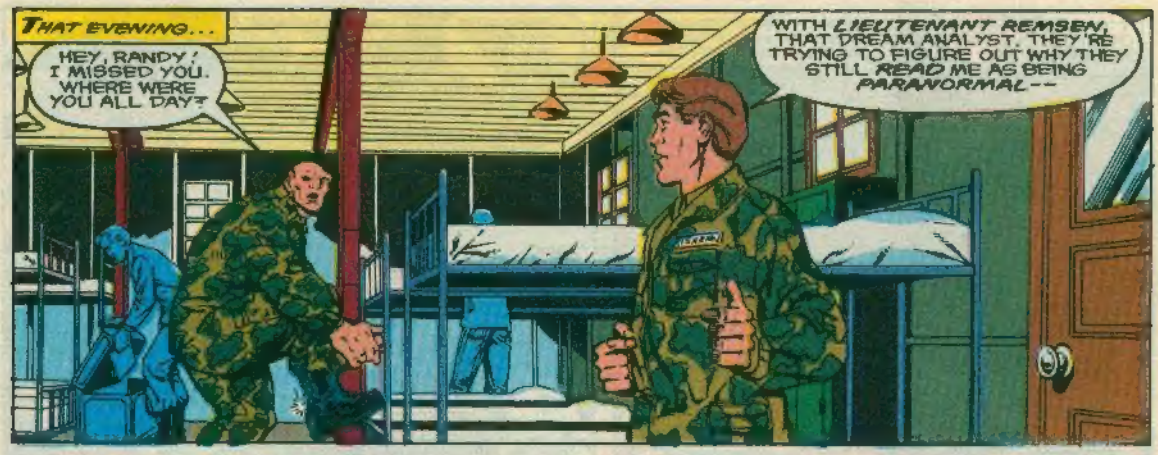
DON'T WORRY, LIL' BUDDY. I'LL STOMP THAT LEECH'S BUTT FROM HERE TO THE PITT FOR YA.
GO GET 'IM, PIT BULL!


OKAY, YOU BOTH KNOW THE RULES. YOU'RE ALLOWED TO USE YOUR POWERS ANY WAY YOU WANT, BUT NO WEAPONS AND NO HITTING WHEN A GUY'S DOWN.
READY, SPAR!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DAVE? DID THIS POOR SHOWING RUIN MY CHANCES OF MAKING THE FIRST STRING TEAM?
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT. ONE LITTLE FIGHT DOESN'T NEGATE THE WAY YOU SET THE PACE FOR EVERYBODY ALL DURING BASIC.

JEFF SURE IS GUNG-HO ABOUT WANTING TO BE SENT OVERSEAS. NOT ME. I JUST WANT TO GET THIS OVER WITH AND GET OUT OF HERE.

AND IF FOULING UP AND DOING BADLY IS WHAT IT TAKES TO GET ME OUT OF THIS CRAZINESS, THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO.
THEY DON'T NEED ANOTHER STRONG GUY ANYWAY. NOT WITH PIT BULL AROUND. HA! EVER SINCE JEFF SAVED HIM FROM GETTING BLOWN UP*, PIT'S BEEN TREATING JEFF LIKE HIS LONG-LOST BROTHER!
* SEE LAST ISSUE.


THAT EVENING...
HEY, RANDY! I MISSED YOU. WHERE WERE YOU ALL DAY?
WITH LIEUTENANT REMSEN, THAT DREAM ANALYST. THEY'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY THEY STILL READ ME AS BEING PARANORMAL--

--YET MY ANTIBODIES HAVEN'T COME OUT OF ME SINCE THE SECOND DAY OF BASIC WELL OVER A MONTH AGO!
THINK THOSE DARK LITTLE DUPLICATES OF YOURS ARE GONE FOR GOOD?

I HAVE NO IDEA. THEY'VE NEVER BEEN THIS INACTIVE BEFORE. I CAN'T EVEN TELL IF THEY'RE ALL HUDDLED UP INSIDE ME OR IF THEY ALL FLEW OFF FOR PARTS UNKNOWN.
LANDERS

WELL, AT LEAST MY CHANCES OF BEING SENT OVERSEAS ARE MINIMAL AT THIS POINT. THE LIEUTENANT IS ARRANGING FOR ME TO FINISH MY MEDICAL TRAINING AS SOON AS I'M THROUGH WITH BASIC.
HMMM, THAT MEANS WE'LL BE SEPARATED AGAIN.
ARMY

YEAH... LOOKS THAT WAY.
MAN, I HATE THE ARMY. I WASN'T CUT OUT FOR THIS. I'VE ONLY STUCK IT OUT THIS LONG BECAUSE YOU AND JEFF WERE HERE...
THAT AND THE FACT THAT THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME ANYWHERE ELSE.

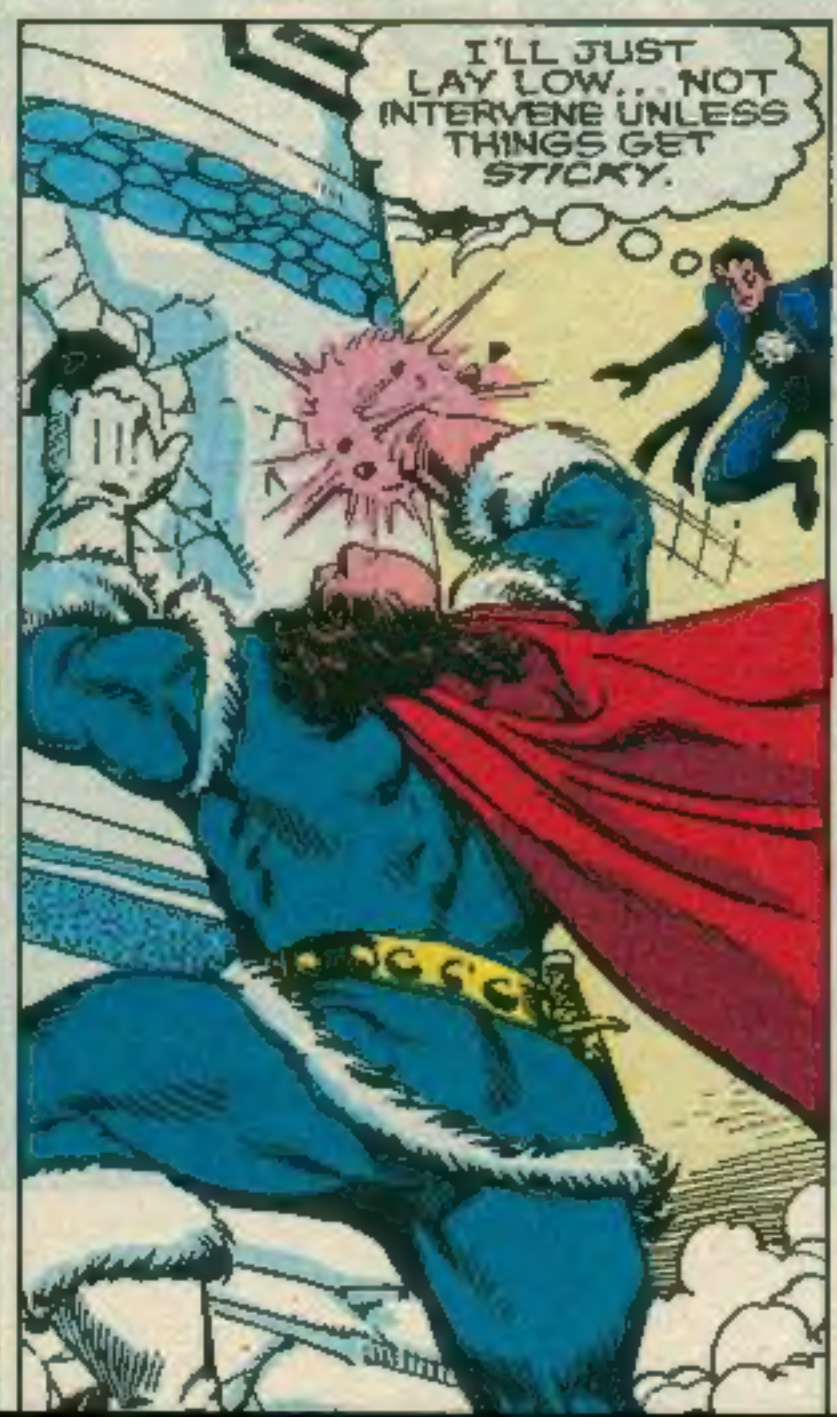
YOU'VE GIVEN UP ON STEPHANIE?
ASSUMING SHE'S RECOVERED FROM HER COMA BY NOW, I'M SURE SHE'S FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME.
GOTTA GO. IT'S MY TURN WITH THAT WACKY DREAM DOCTOR. YOU'LL PROBABLY BE ASLEEP BY THE TIME I GET BACK.
O'BRIAN

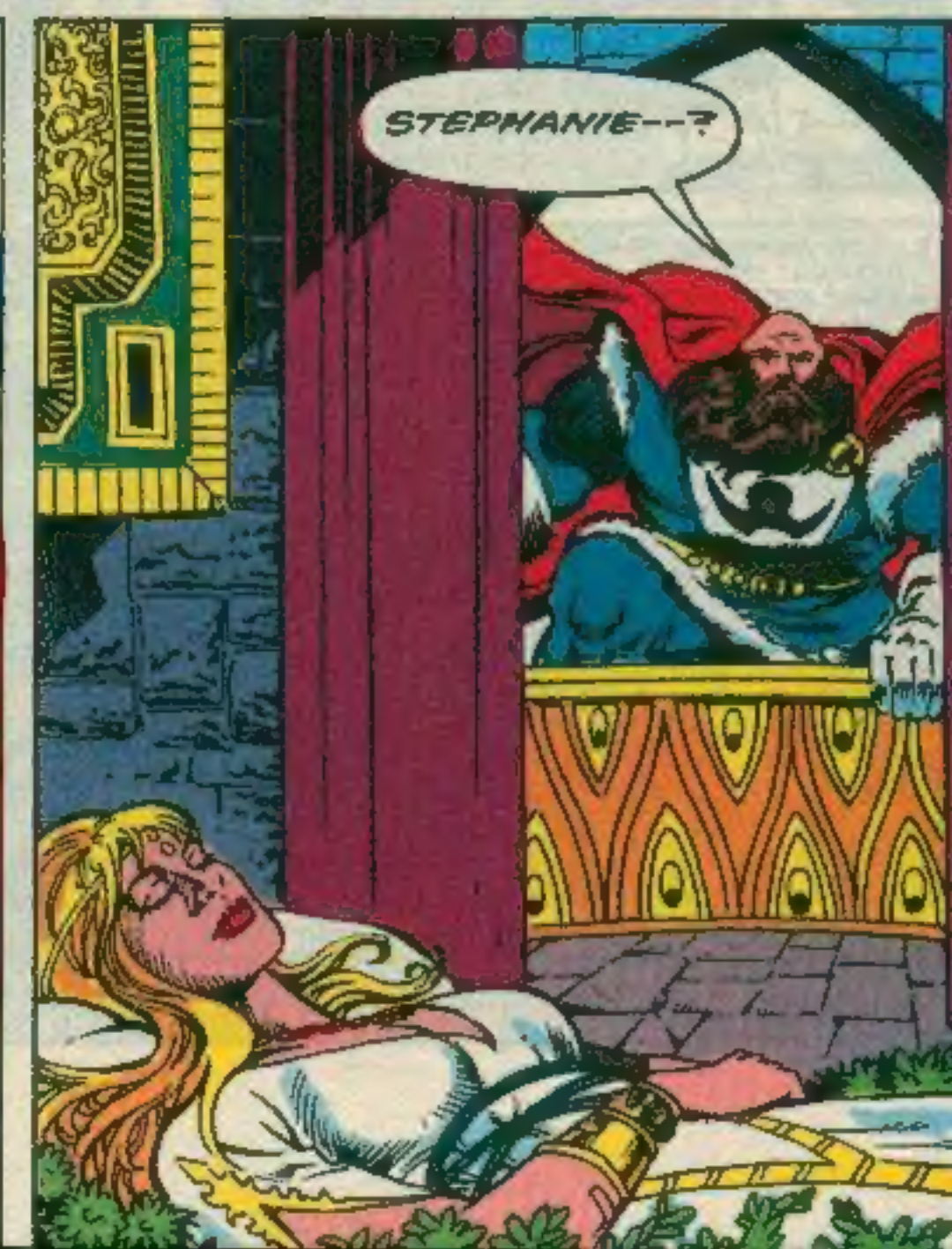
HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING THIS CUTE IN A WHILE-- THIS DREAM'S STRAIGHT OUT OF A FAIRY TALE.

PRIVATE LANDERS MUST BE THE LAST OF THE ROMANTICS.

THAT MUST BE HIM CLIMBING UP THAT IVORY TOWER. HIS DREAMSELF, THAT IS.

WONDER WHO THE BIG LUG SEES HIMSELF AS-- PRINCE CHARMING?





STEPHIE... IT'S ME, PRINCE MASTODON! I'VE COME TO FREE YOU FROM THAT WIZARD'S TRANCE...
...IF I CAN.

PLEASE, PLEASE WAKE UP...

MMMNNN... DAVID--?
IT WORKED! YOU'RE--YOU'RE--

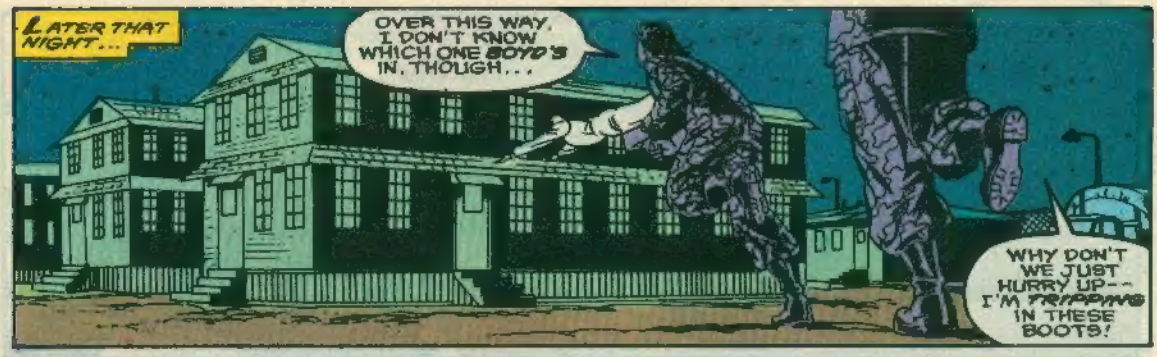
YOU SAVED ME, PRINCE MASTODON--SAVED ME FROM THE DARK RIVER OF OBLIVION BY THE STRENGTH OF... YOUR LOVE!
YES! IT WAS MY LOVE! IT WAS ALL I HAD TO SUSTAIN ME THROUGH THESE LONG MONTHS OF HARDSHIP... IT'S WHAT'S MADE ALL I'VE ENDURED WORTHWHILE!
YOU MUST LET ME REPAY YOU FOR YOUR STEADFASTNESS... YOUR VALOR.
THAT IS NOT NECESSARY, MY PRINCESS.

BUT I INSIST!
LET MY HEALING TOUCH--

--RESTORE TO YOU THE FACE AND FORM--

--THAT YOUR PARANORMALITY TOOK AWAY!

I-I'M MYSELF AGAIN! YOU'VE HEALED ME! NOW WE--NOW WE CAN--
YES, MY PRINCE--YES!
MAN ALIVE! I THOUGHT ONLY TEENAGED GIRLS HAD DREAMS THIS CORNY! THIS LANDERS GUY MAY HAVE MUSCLES OF STEEL, BUT HE'S ALL MUSH INSIDE.
WONDER WHO THE BABE IS--THIS STEPHANIE? A REAL PERSON, OR A FANTASY FIGURE? THE WAY HE'S KEPT HER IMAGE SO CONSISTENT I'D LAY ODDS SHE WAS REAL.
WONDER IF SHE REALLY HAS THE POWER TO HEAL PEOPLE?


LATER THAT NIGHT...
OVER THIS WAY. I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE BOYD'S IN, THOUGH...
WHY DON'T WE JUST HURRY UP-- I'M TRIPPING IN THESE BOOTS!

SOON...
POUND HIM!
HEY, BOYD, BEIN' ALL THAT YOU CAN BE?
HMFFF
WAYNE TUCKER, TYRONE JESSUP AND SOME CHICK!* WHAT IN THE--?
*BOYD'S FORMER ALLIES IN PSI-FORCE.

COME OUTSIDE...
REAL QUIET. LET'S NOT WAKE ANYONE UP...
HUH?

THOSE GUYS WHO ROUSTED BOYD OUT OF BED AREN'T IN THE PLATOON. HOW'D THEY GET IN HERE?
YOU PUSHED ME, DIDN'T YOU, TUCKER?

MAYBE HERE'S MY CHANCE TO MAKE BOYD LOOK BAD...
HEY, BOYD--WHAT'S THE COMMOTION?
THIS DOESN'T CONCERN YOU, WALTERS. GO BACK TO SLEEP...
LOOK AT THE WAY HE DOESN'T STOP SHAKING!

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE, BOYD? DO YOU KNOW--?
HNNGH? WHO'S DISTURBIN' MY BEAUTY SLEEP?

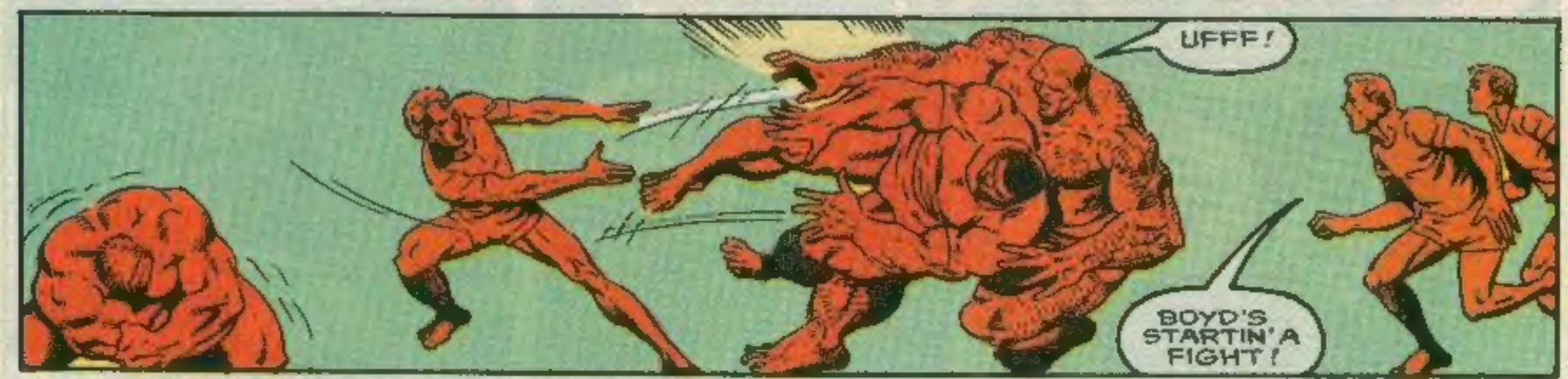
I SAID--
--STAY OUT OF IT!
KRASH

WHAT THE--
HEY, SHADDUP!
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' TO MY PAL JEPP?
BACK OFF, UGLY! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOU!
TRYIN' TO SLEEP HERE!

WE'LL MAKE THE TIME!
UH-OH!

PHASE-SHIFT THROUGH THIS BRUISER--OVERLOAD HIS NERVOUS SYSTEM!
AARRGH!
ZZZZZAK

WHAT'S GOING ON--THAT BOYD PUNK PICKING MORE FIGHTS?


UFFF!
BOYD'S STARTIN' A FIGHT!

OUTSIDE...
LINDS--WAIT!
HAD TO LEAVE--THAT GUY WAS SO--BIG! I CAN'T HELP IN A FIGHT AGAINST SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
I FORCED THEM INTO THIS AND THEN I RUN AWAY--!
MACCUE
US ARMY

AND...

I MADE THOSE TUBES OF *PURE FORCE*. YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE, THOMAS.

I *HAVE* TO GO. THERE'S TOO MUCH AT *STAKE* FOR ME OUT THERE.

WHAT'S HE *TALKING* ABOUT?

WE'LL GO *THROUGH* YOU IF WE HAVE TO, BUT WE ARE LEAVING.

HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT THE SARGE IS GOING TO PUNISH *ALL* OF US IF THIS ISN'T *STOPPED* AT ONCE!

JESSUP, YOU NEED ANY *HELP*?

NOPE!

ZZZSSS

BURNS--LIKE AN *ELECTRICAL SHOCK!*

KCHA

SHOULD--SHOULD WE GO *AFTER* THEM?

NAH--I HEAR THE *MILITARY POLICE*. THEY'LL HANDLE 'EM. WE'D JUST GET OURSELVES IN *TROUBLE*.

LOOKS LIKE YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BOYD STEALING YOUR PLACE ON THE *FIRST STRING TEAM*, JEFF. *JEFF*--?

AR OOGA
A OOGA

** FOR THE FULL STORY BEHIND THE LIBERATION OF THOMAS BOYD, SEE PSI-FORCE #23 ON SALE NOW.*

THREE DAYS LATER..

MAJOR ZENTNER, LIEUTENANT REMSEN TO SEE YOU.

SEND HIM IN

SIR WHILE COMPLETING MY PSYCH-PROFILE ON PRIVATE LANDERS--I BELIEVE IT SHOULD HAVE REACHED YOU BY NOW-- I CAME ACROSS A REFERENCE TO A WOMAN WITH THE POWER TO HEAL INJURIES...

FIGURING THAT IF SUCH A PERSON EXISTED, SHE'D BE AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO US AS A NURSE, I TOOK IT UPON MYSELF TO DO A LITTLE RESEARCH.

ANYWAY, THERE REALLY IS SUCH A PERSON. SHE WAS A PARANORMAL WHO WAS TREATED AT THE CLINIC IN WISCONSIN.. HERE'S THE RELEVANT FILES SENT TO ME BY THE STATE POLICE...

ZENTNER

THANK YOU, LIEUTENANT EXCELLENT INITIATIVE

I VE MET THIS WOMAN I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF HER MYSELF

HARRINGTON, S

LATER THAT DAY.

MAJOR ZENTNER, SIR

I MET THIS PARANORMAL BLOODHOUND BACK WHEN HE WAS A BOUNTY HUNTER.. WHAT THE HECK DOES HE WANT WITH ME NOW?

PRIVATE LANDERS

.. HOW WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUR GIRLFRIEND, AGAIN?

SIR.

ZENTN

U.S.AF

CONVERGENCE PART 2

LANGLEY, MARYLAND. A SPECIAL C I A TRAINING CENTER.

COME ON, MERRIAM-- YOU CAN DO IT! THROW YOUR WEIGHT INTO IT! GIVE LENORE THE OL' HEAVE-HO!

NNNGH!

CAN'T SAP HER MOISTURE UNLESS MY SKIN TOUCHES HERS! BUT I DON'T DARE REMOVE THESE PROTECTIVE GLOVES OR ELSE THAT WEIRD LIGHT HER BODY GIVES OFF WILL KNOCK ME OUT!

LISTEN TO ME-- I SOUND LIKE A STUPID CHEERLEADER! I SHOULD BE DOING MORE THAN HANGING AROUND LIKE A FRIGHTENED SPIDER--BUT WHAT?!?

FEELS SO--INVIGORATING TO LET MY SKIN BE EXPOSED TO AIR AFTER SO MANY LONG MONTHS OF SWADDLING MYSELF FROM HEAD TO TOE LIKE A MUMMY!

HIIYUUUP!

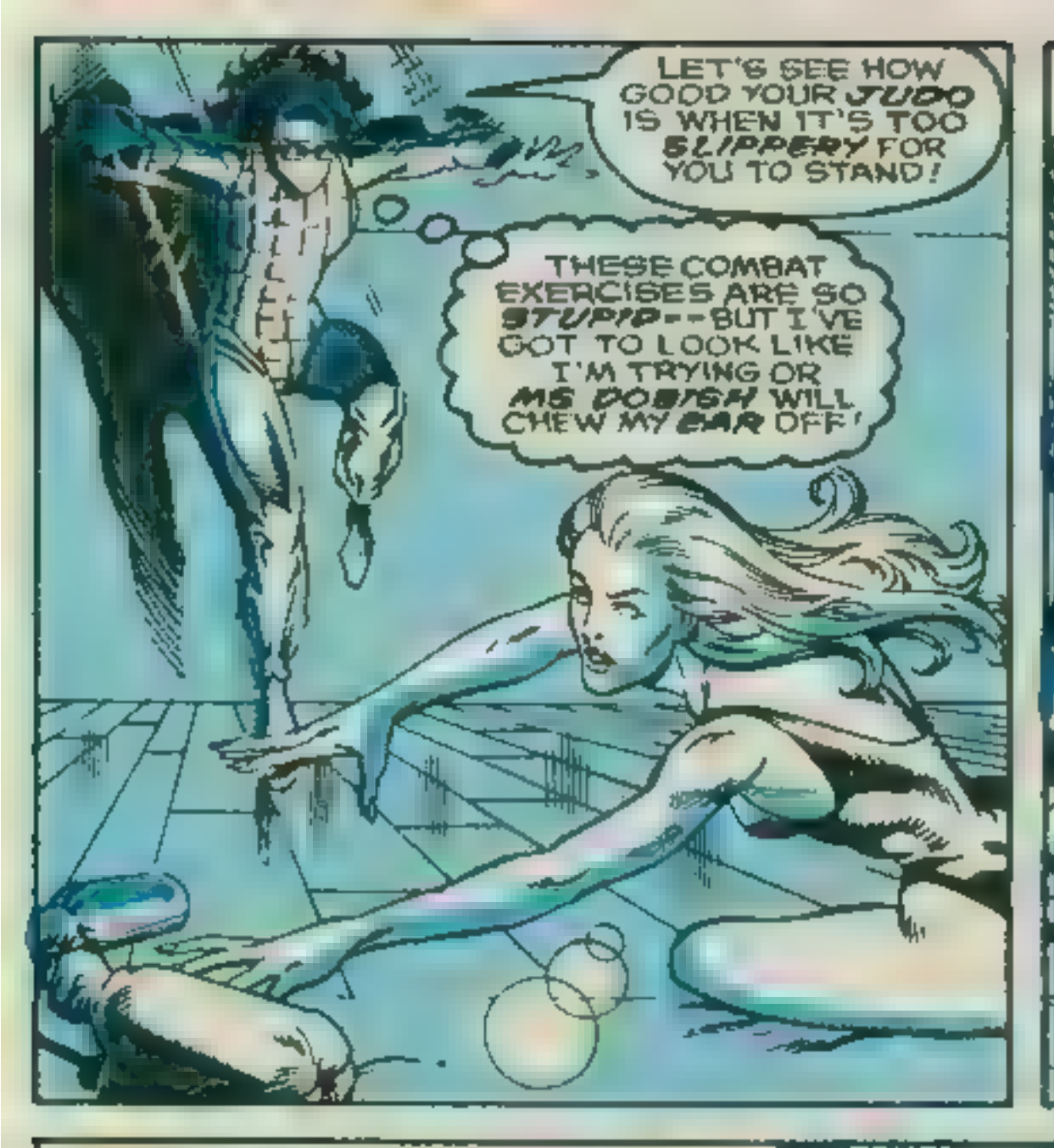
AND EVEN THOUGH THOSE GARMENTS CHARLOTTE AND MERRIAM ARE WEARING WERE DESIGNED TO BLOCK OUT MY BIOLUMINESCENCE...

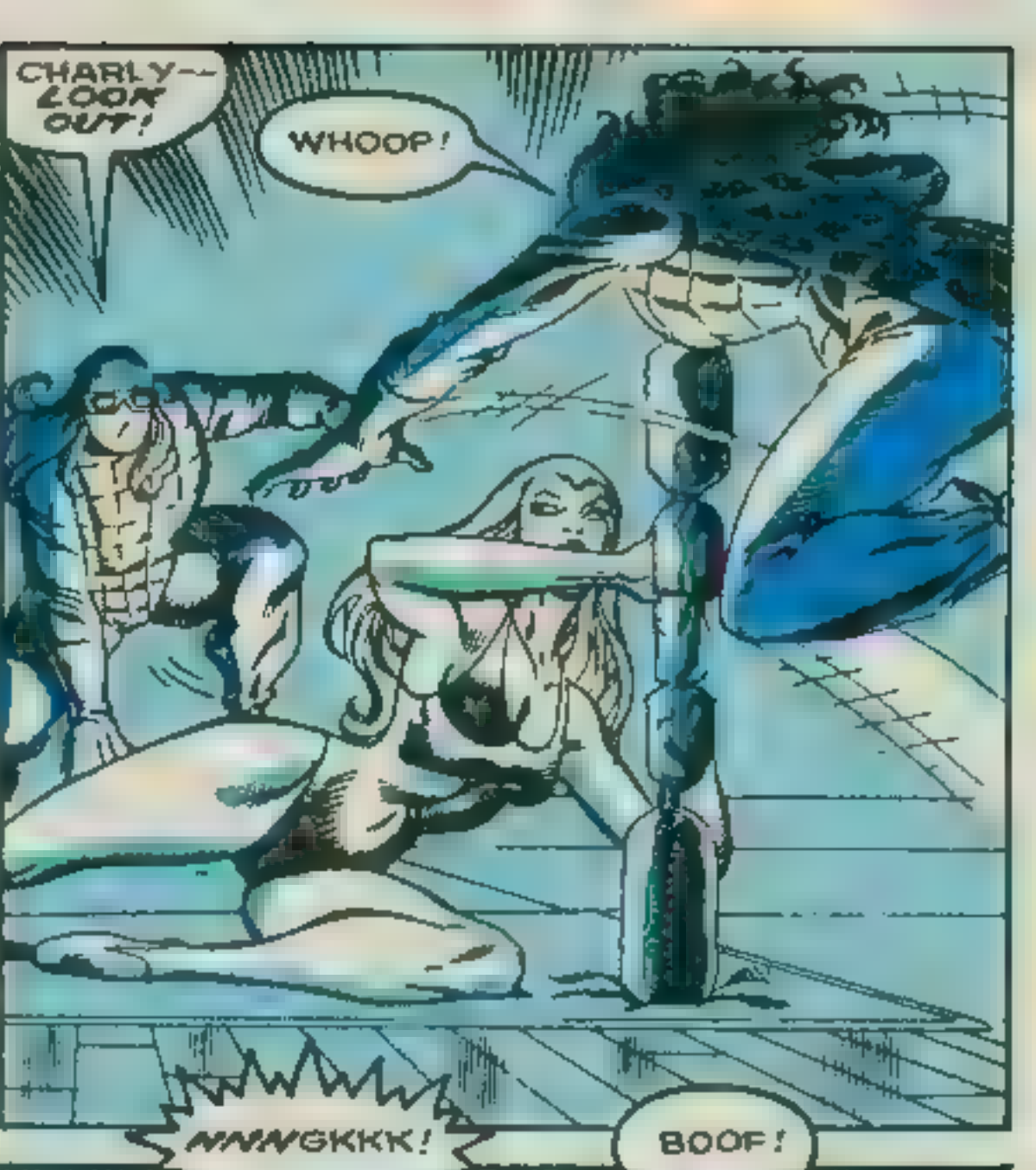
I HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY STORED UP FROM PREVIOUS "FEASTINGS" TO SUSTAIN QUITE A HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY.

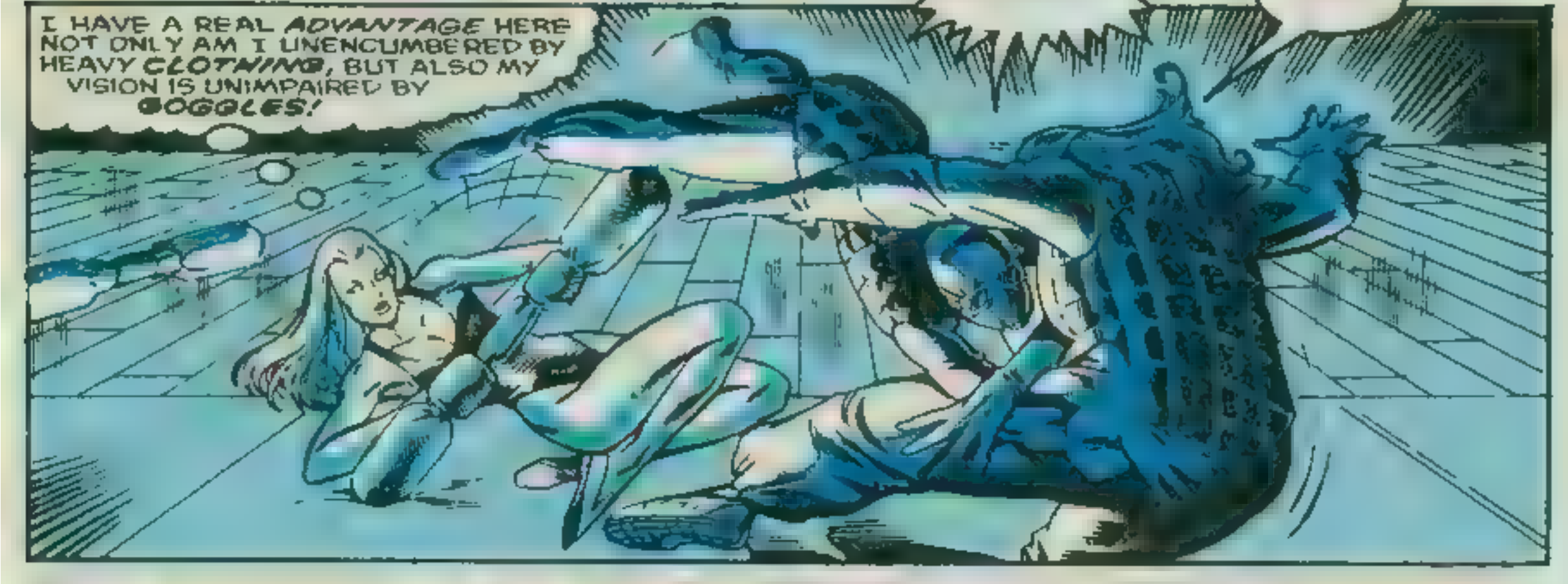
IMAGINE - LEARNING JUDO AT AGE 68!

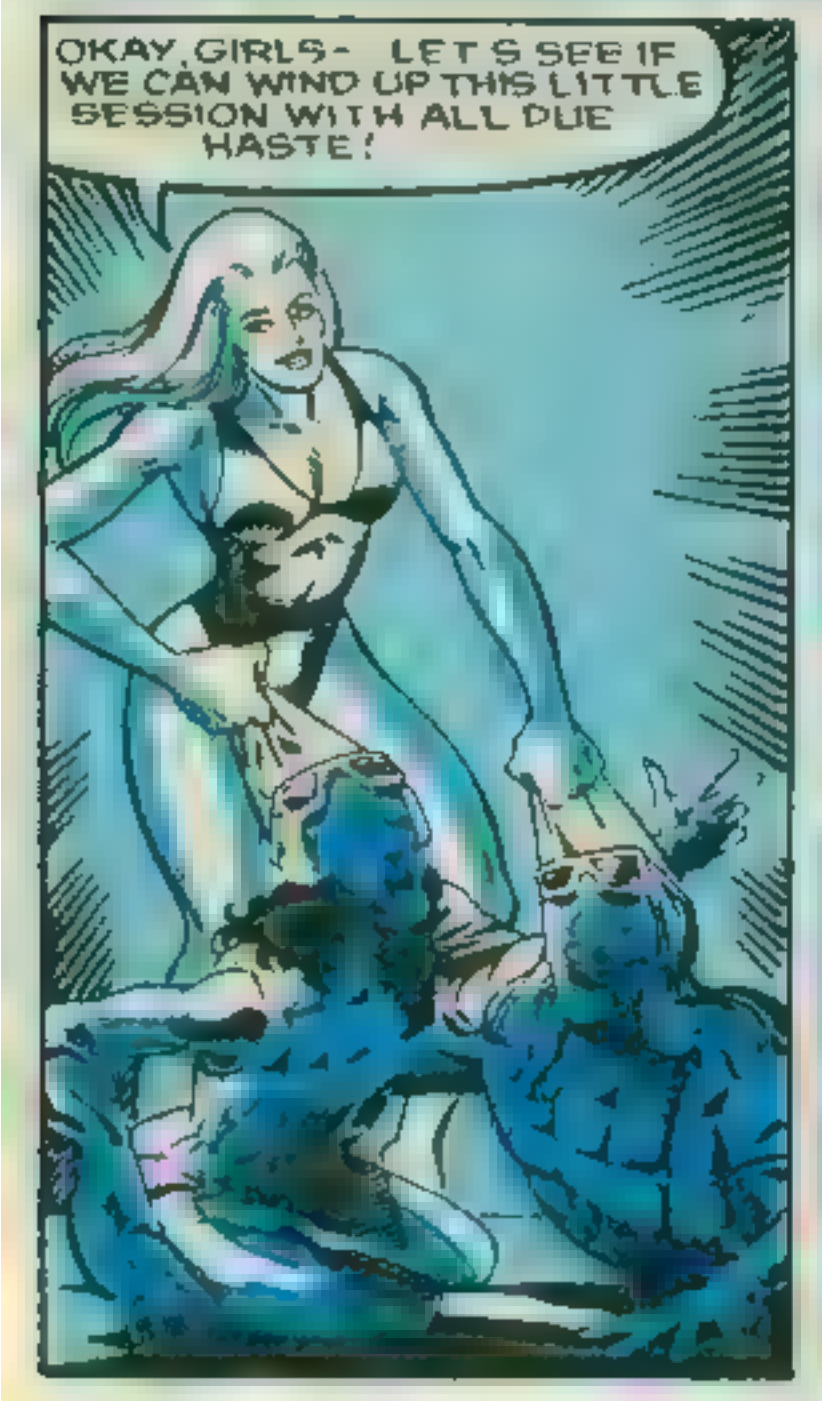
WHOOPS!

CHARLOTTE- PLAYING WITH FRICTION!

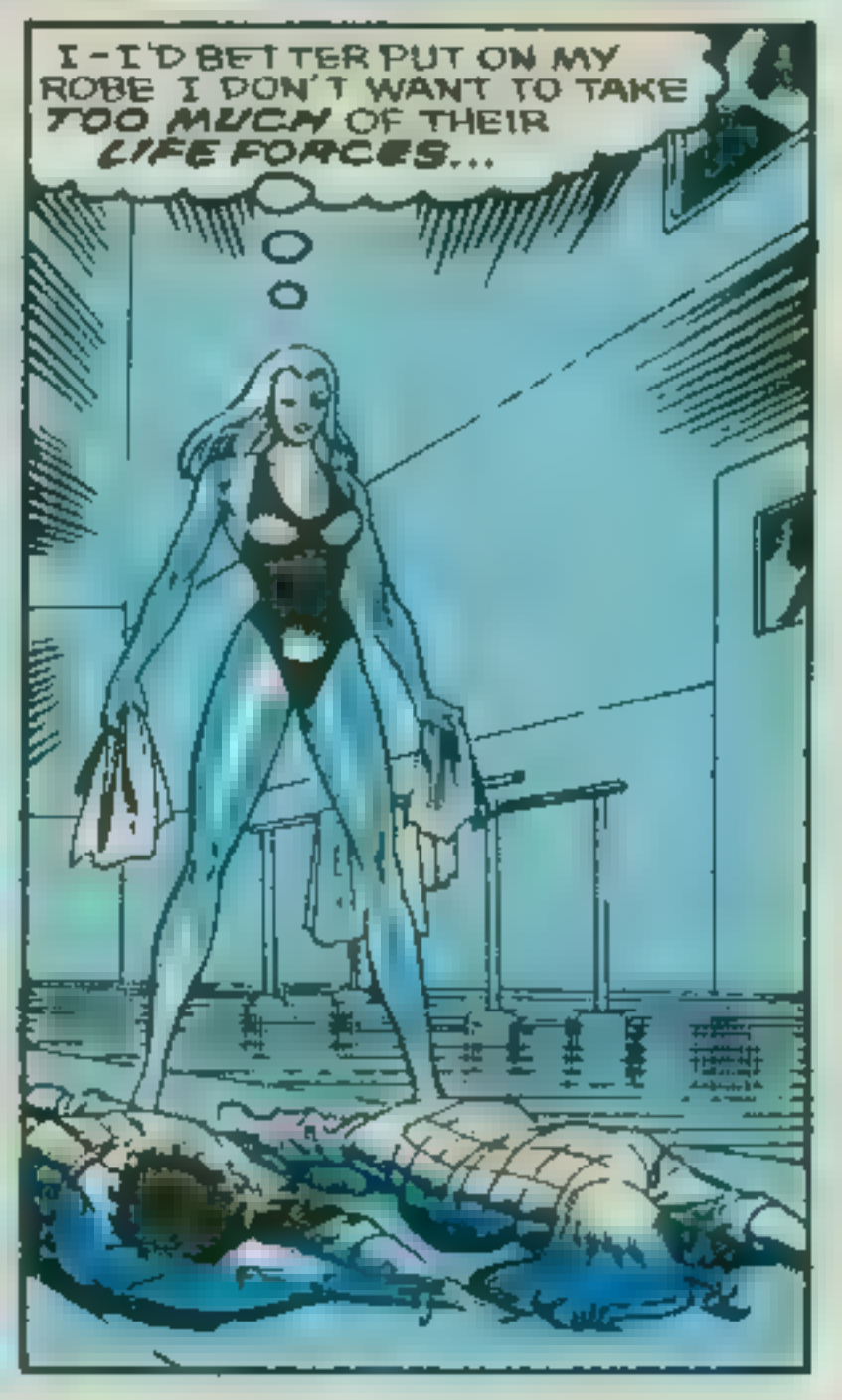

LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR JUDO IS WHEN IT'S TOO SLIPPERY FOR YOU TO STAND!
THESE COMBAT EXERCISES ARE SO STUPID--BUT I'VE GOT TO LOOK LIKE I'M TRYING OR MS DOBISH WILL CHEW MY EAR OFF!


CHARLY--LOOK OUT!
WHOOP!


NNNGKKK!
BOOF!
I HAVE A REAL ADVANTAGE HERE NOT ONLY AM I UNENCUMBERED BY HEAVY CLOTHING, BUT ALSO MY VISION IS UNIMPAIRED BY GOGGLES!


OKAY, GIRLS- LET'S SEE IF WE CAN WIND UP THIS LITTLE SESSION WITH ALL DUE HASTE!

AW--NO FAIR! CHARLY, DO SOMETHING!
ME DO SOMETHING? WHY DON'T YOU--UHNNH...


I-I'D BETTER PUT ON MY ROBE I DON'T WANT TO TAKE TOO MUCH OF THEIR LIFE FORCES...

EXCELLENT, *AGENT FENZL*. YOU SEE WHAT AN *EDGE* YOUR MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING GIVES YOU?

YES, MR. MATHE--

--BUT BEFORE YOU GIVE ME YOUR FULL *CRITIQUE*, LET ME SEE TO MY *FRIENDS*!

OF COURSE

HOW ARE *THEY*? WE HAVE *PARAMEDICS* LESS THAN A MINUTE AWAY!

PULSE BREATHING. SEEMS *OKAY*. SORRY IF I SEEM OVERLY *CAUTIOUS*, SIR, BUT I'M JUST NOT USED TO LETTING SO MUCH *SKIN* IN ON THE ABSORPTION PROCESS...

CHARLOTTE DEAR GIRL, I'D NEVER *FORGIVE* MYSELF IF I HURT YOU... HOW STRANGE IT STILL SEEMS TO BE TAUGHT TO *FIGHT* LIKE THIS

"BUT I GUESS IT WAS OUR *BEST OPTION*, CONSIDERING THE *PREDICAMENT* WE GOT OURSELVES INTO

"IT WAS LATE LAST YEAR. OVER *FOUR* MONTHS AGO... WE'D TRAVELED ALONG WITH *RANDY* AND THE OTHERS TO THE *PITTSBURGH* VICINITY TO LOOK FOR *JEFFREY*, BUT GOT *SEPARATED* FROM THEM

"THE AREA WAS UNDER *MARTIAL LAW*, AND WHEN WE WERE CAUGHT TRESPASSING, WE WERE *SHOT*--ALBEIT WITH TRANQUILIZER DARTS *

*AS DEPICTED IN ISSUE #21

"CHARLOTTE AND I WERE PLACED IN A SPECIAL *HOLDING FACILITY*--OUR COMPANION *GEORGE* WAS TAKEN SOMEWHERE ELSE, PROBABLY SO THEY COULD EXAMINE HIS BIZARRE *BIRDLIKE FORM*.

"THAT WAS THE *LAST* WE SAW OF HIM

"SOLDIERS INTERROGATED CHARLOTTE AND I FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE *WEEKS*. . ABOUT OUR *POWERS*... WHAT WE WERE DOING AT THE *PITT*... HOW WE'D *GOTTEN* THERE... WHAT WE'D *SEEN*.

"THEY DIDN'T SEEM AT ALL *SURPRISED* THAT WE WERE PARANORMALS

"LATER WE FOUND OUT *WHY*.

"IT SEEMS THE ARMY WAS TRYING TO *DRAFT* PARANORMALS INTO THE SERVICE *MALE* PARANORMALS THAT IS FEMALE PARANORMALS WERE EXEMPT. UNLESS OF COURSE THEY *VOLUNTEERED*.

"IT LOOKED LIKE WE WERE GOING TO BE *REQUIRED* TO 'VOLUNTEER' IN ORDER TO ESCAPE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNTIL *MS. DOBISH* SHOWED UP

"SHE WAS PART OF THE *CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S* PARANORMAL RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. APPARENTLY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WANT PARANORMAL AGENTS ALL THEIR *OWN*.

"SHE MADE C I A TRAINING SOUND FAR *PREFERABLE* TO THE ARMY'S BOOT CAMP, SO CHARLOTTE AND I *SIGNED UP ANYTHING* WAS PREFERABLE TO ANOTHER WEEK IN A COLD *ARMY CELL*.

"AND SO WE ENDED UP HERE IN MARYLAND ..AS DID OUR OTHER FEMALE TRAVELING COMPANION, *MERRIAM*, WHO HAD ALSO BEEN CAPTURED BY THE *ARMY* WE'VE BEEN TRAINING *TWELVE HOURS A DAY* EVER SINCE."

LATER THAT DAY..

...BUT I CAN TELL YOU THAT INTER-AGENCY RIVALRY OVER WHO HAS THE MOST *USEFUL* AGENTS IN THEIR EMPLOY IS VERY FIERCE.

YOU, MS. FENZL--A *HUMAN TRANQUILIZER* WITH REMARKABLE ATHLETIC ABILITIES--ARE A MOST VALUABLE AGENT. ONCE YOU FINISH YOUR TRAINING AND THE PERIOD OF SERVICE YOU HAVE CONTRACTED FOR, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO WRITE YOUR OWN *TICKET* ANYWHERE IN THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

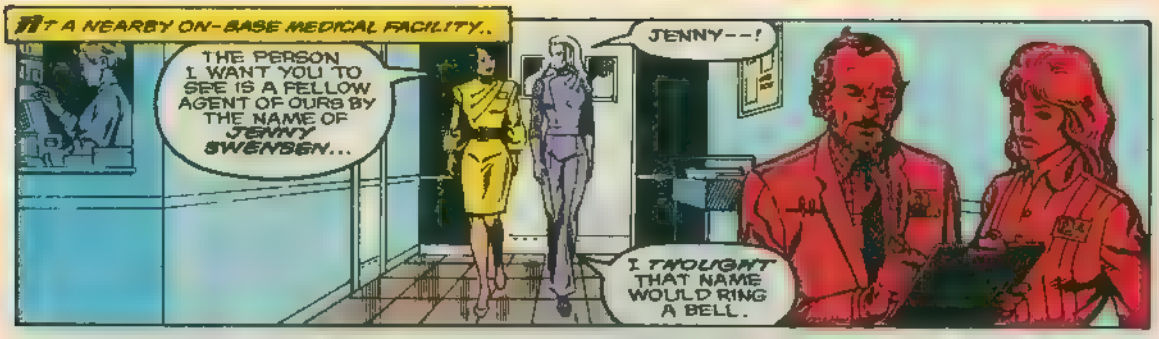
I APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE *SAYING*, MS DOBISH

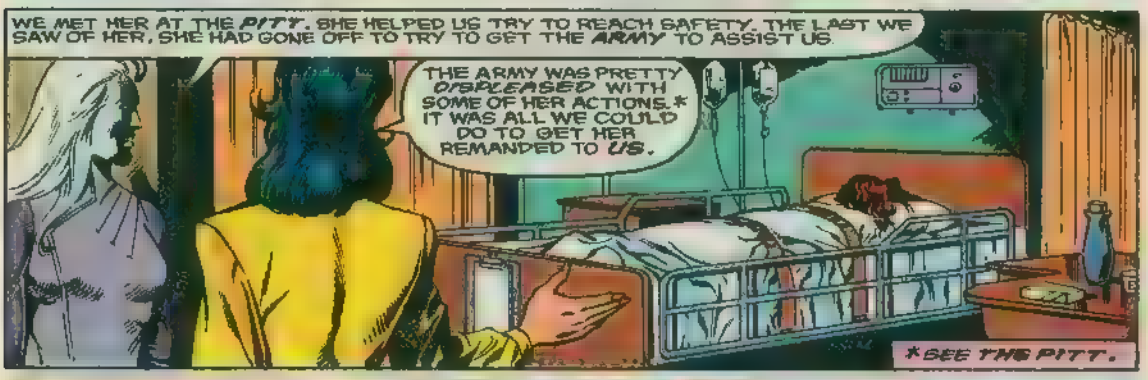
NOW IF YOU'D BE SO GOOD AS TO *COME* WITH ME, THERE IS SOMEONE I WISH FOR YOU TO *SEE*...

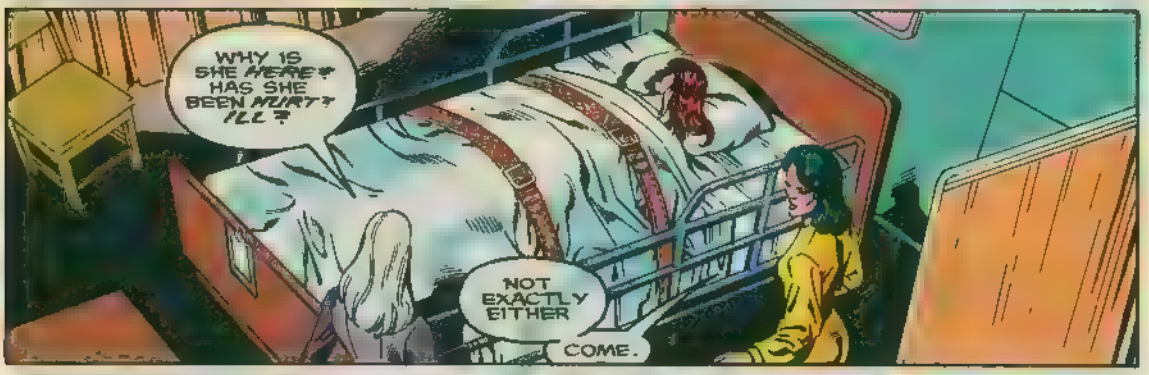
ANOTHER *SPECIALIST*?

NO... A *FRIEND* OF YOURS, ACTUALLY

OH?


AT A NEARBY ON-BASE MEDICAL FACILITY..
THE PERSON I WANT YOU TO SEE IS A FELLOW AGENT OF OURS BY THE NAME OF JENNY SWENSEN...
JENNY--!
I THOUGHT THAT NAME WOULD RING A BELL.

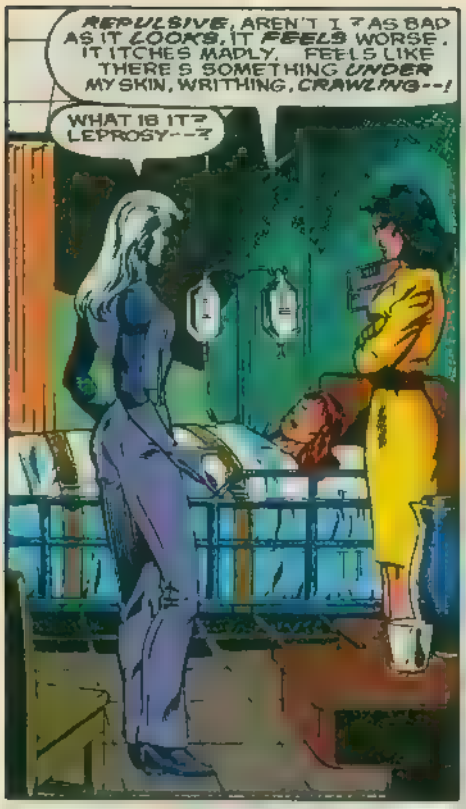

WE MET HER AT THE PITT. SHE HELPED US TRY TO REACH SAFETY. THE LAST WE SAW OF HER, SHE HAD GONE OFF TO TRY TO GET THE ARMY TO ASSIST US.
THE ARMY WAS PRETTY DISPLEASED WITH SOME OF HER ACTIONS.* IT WAS ALL WE COULD DO TO GET HER REMANDED TO US.
*SEE THE PITT.

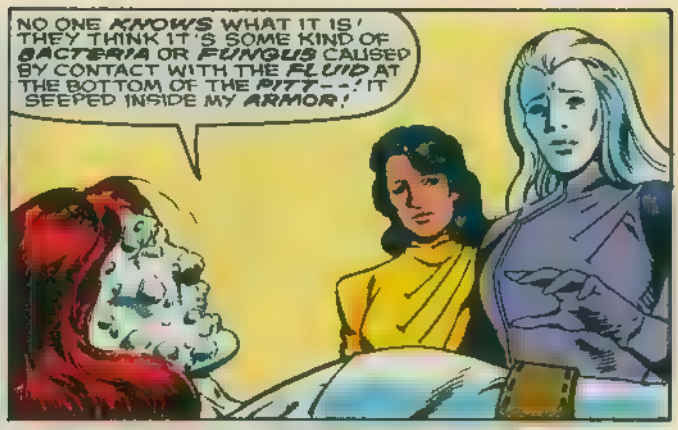

WHY IS SHE HERE? HAS SHE BEEN HURT? ILL?
NOT EXACTLY EITHER
COME.

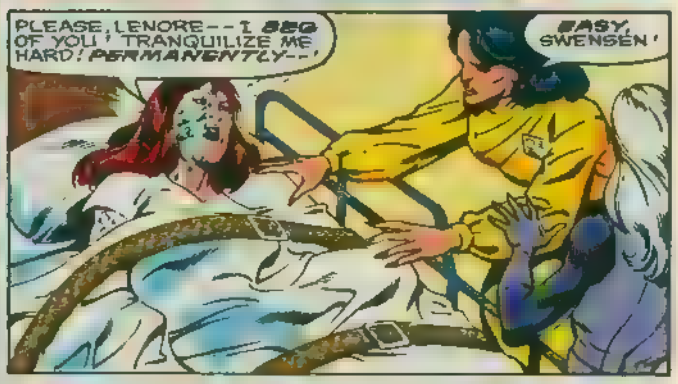
AGENT SWENSEN... I HAVE A VISITOR TO SEE YOU.
I DON'T WANT--
JENNY, IT'S LENORE FENZL.

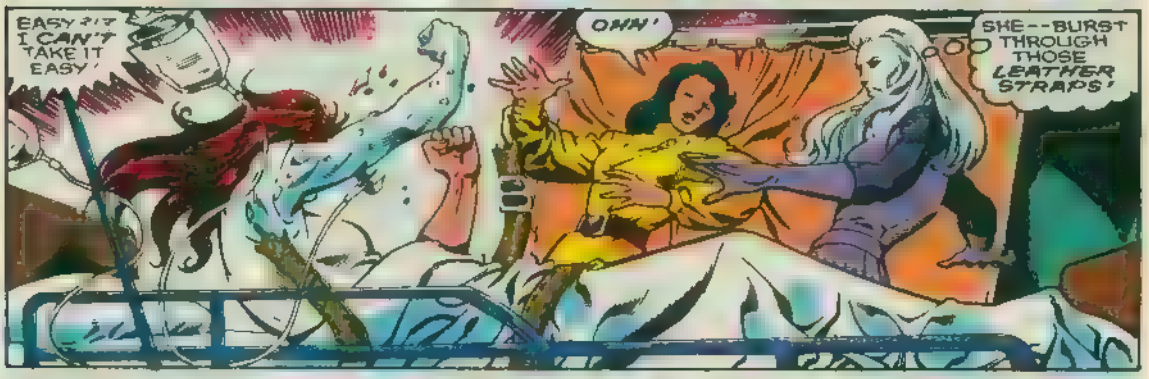
LENORE --?

YOU MUST HELP ME, LENORE! YOU MUST PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY!
CARA NOME! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HER?

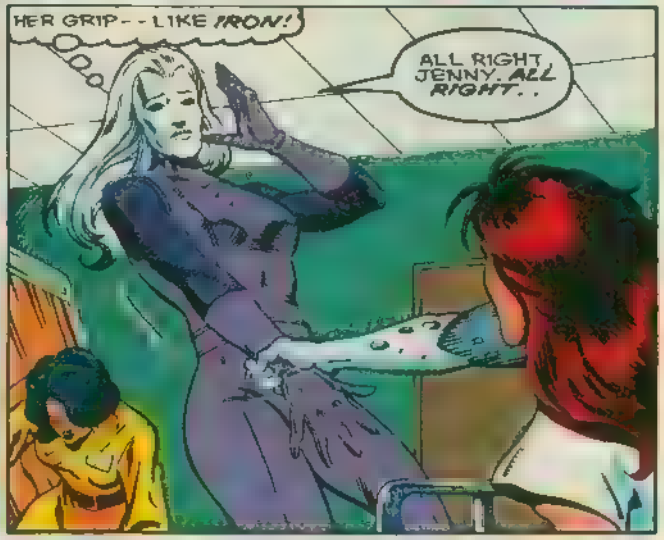

REPULSIVE, AREN'T I ? AS BAD AS IT LOOKS, IT FEELS WORSE. IT ITCHES MADLY. FEELS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING UNDER MY SKIN, WRITHING, CRAWLING--!
WHAT IS IT? LEPROSY--?

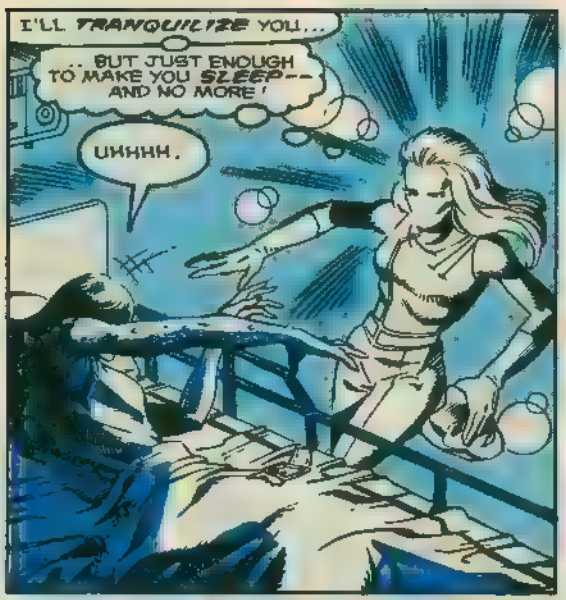

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT IT IS! THEY THINK IT'S SOME KIND OF BACTERIA OR FUNGUS CAUSED BY CONTACT WITH THE FLUID AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PITT--! IT SEEPED INSIDE MY ARMOR!


PLEASE, LENORE--I BEG OF YOU! TRANQUILIZE ME HARD! PERMANENTLY--!
EASY, SWENSEN!


EASY?!? I CAN'T TAKE IT EASY!
OHH!
SHE--BURST THROUGH THOSE LEATHER STRAPS!

LENORE!
PLEASE THE INFECTION IS SPREADING! I DON'T WANT TO LIVE MY LIFE AS- AS-- THE ELEPHANT MAN! TRANQUILIZE ME!!!


HER GRIP--LIKE IRON!
ALL RIGHT JENNY. ALL RIGHT..


I'LL TRANQUILIZE YOU...
...BUT JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU SLEEP-- AND NO MORE!
UHHHH.

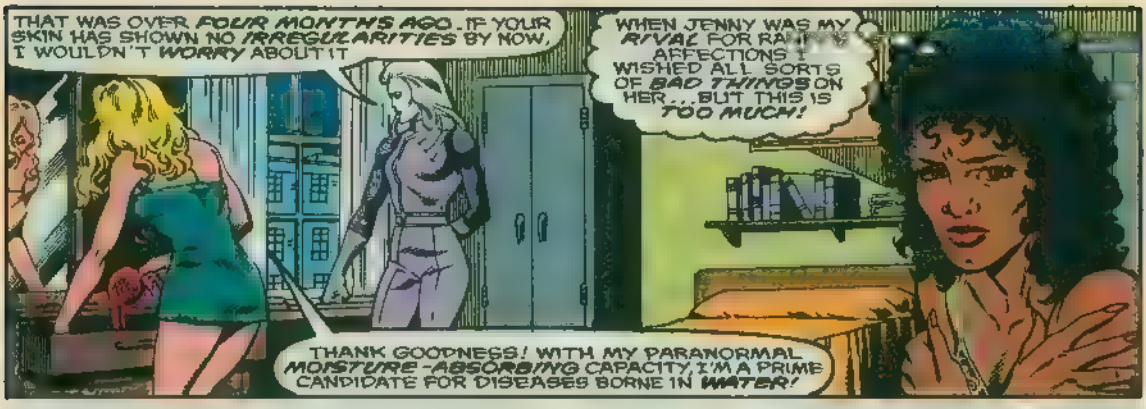
MS. DOBISH?
I'M ALL RIGHT. YOU DIDN'T--?
OF COURSE. NOT.

WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR HER?
NOTHING WE KNOW OF SHE'S BEYOND THE REACH OF ANYONE MEDICINE.
WHY DID YOU SHOW ME THIS? DID HE ASK FOR ME?

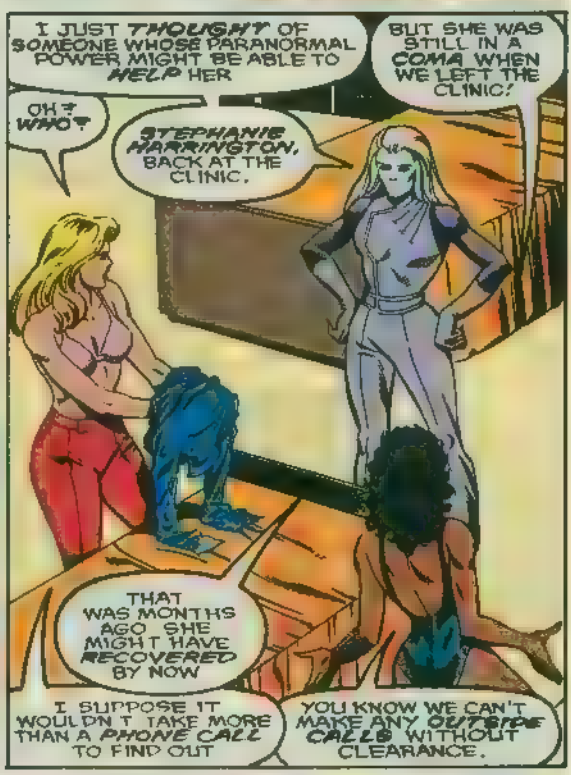
NO.. THOUGH SHE DID MENTION YOU ONCE WHILE UNDER SEDATIVES.
A SIDE EFFECT OF WHATEVER'S HAPPENING TO HER IS SHE'S BECOMING IMMUNE TO ALL KNOWN NARCOTICS AND SEDATIVES

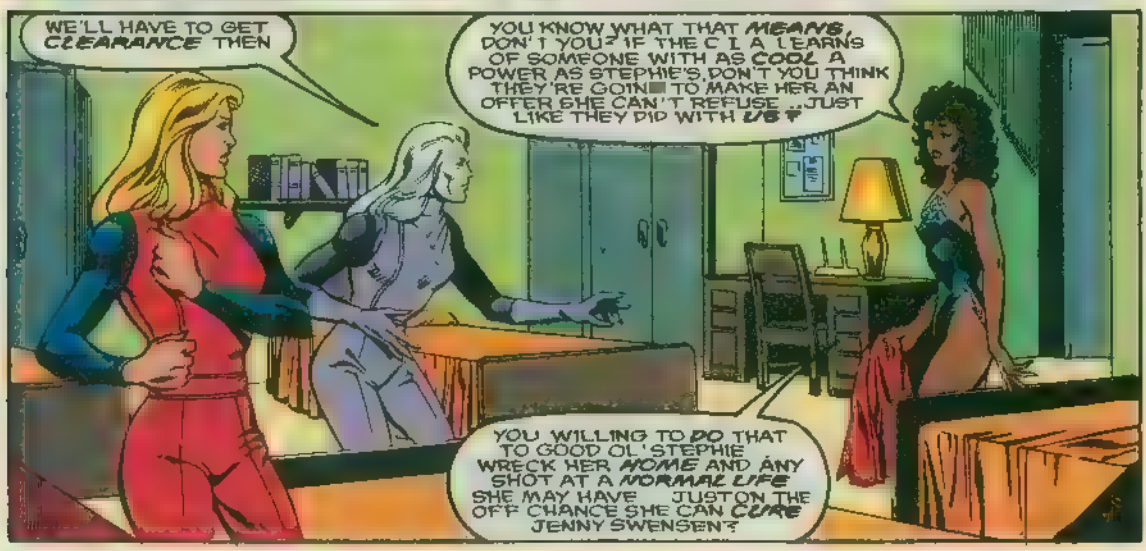
I WAS HOPING THAT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE HER OCCASIONAL... RELIEF FROM HER SUFFERING.
I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN

THAT NIGHT...
...SOME UNKNOWN SORT OF FUNGUS SPREADING ALL OVER HER BODY, THE POOR WOMAN!
WHAT'D IT LOOK LIKE?
A MASS OF SHINY FESTERING BOILS
EEUUUUGH!
I WONDER IF IT'S CONTAGIOUS. WE WE WERE ALL IN CLOSE QUARTERS. WHAT IF WE TOUCHED HER--?


THAT WAS OVER FOUR MONTHS AGO. IF YOUR SKIN HAS SHOWN NO IRREGULARITIES BY NOW, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT
WHEN JENNY WAS MY RIVAL FOR RAN AFFECTIONS I WISHED ALL SORTS OF BAD THINGS ON HER... BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH!
THANK GOODNESS! WITH MY PARANORMAL MOISTURE-ABSORBING CAPACITY, I'M A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR DISEASES BORNE IN WATER!

I JUST WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING WE COULD DO FOR HER SHE REALLY HELPED US BACK IN THE PIT! SOME OF US WOULDN'T BE ALIVE IF IT WEREN'T FOR HER!
WE'RE NOT DOCTORS OR SCIENTISTS, LENORE THERE'S NOTHING WE COULD DO! AND WITH MY POWER WHAT IT IS, I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE NEAR HER!


I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMEONE WHOSE PARANORMAL POWER MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP HER
BUT SHE WAS STILL IN A COMA WHEN WE LEFT THE CLINIC!
OH? WHO?
STEPHANIE HARRINGTON, BACK AT THE CLINIC.
THAT WAS MONTHS AGO SHE MIGHT HAVE RECOVERED BY NOW
I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T TAKE MORE THAN A PHONE CALL TO FIND OUT
YOU KNOW WE CAN'T MAKE ANY OUTSIDE CALLS WITHOUT CLEARANCE.


WE'LL HAVE TO GET CLEARANCE THEN
YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, DON'T YOU? IF THE C I A LEARNS OF SOMEONE WITH AS COOL A POWER AS STEPHIE'S, DON'T YOU THINK THEY'RE GOIN TO MAKE HER AN OFFER SHE CAN'T REFUSE...JUST LIKE THEY DID WITH US?
YOU WILLING TO DO THAT TO GOOD OL' STEPHIE WRECK HER HOME AND ANY SHOT AT A NORMAL LIFE SHE MAY HAVE JUST ON THE OFF CHANCE SHE CAN CURE JENNY SWENSEN?

CONVERGENCE PART 3

SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN

C'MON SCUZZ WHUP 'IM' WHUP THAT WISEACRE'

LOOK OUT, MOTHBALL'S REALLY BUBBLING MAD!

STOP THAT--' YOU'RE GONNA GET US YELLED AT!

SCUZZ 'JOEL' HEATHER'S RIGHT' OLD MAN HARRINGTON'S BEEN GROUSING ABOUT US HANGING OUT IN HIS BASEMENT FOR SO LONG AS IT IS 'IF YOU TWO MACHO JERKS REALLY GET HIM MAD--'

SAY UNCLE, BUBBLE-HEAD!

YOU BETTER NOT GO SCORCHER, SCUZZ-- YOU'LL BURN THE HOUSE DOWN!

YOU WANT ME TO SAY UNCLE MAGGOT-BREATH--? TEACH ME HOW!

LONG AS I KEEP POPPING OUT MY POWER BLANKING BUBBLES, THE DUNCE'S ACID-FLAME CAN'T BURN ME!

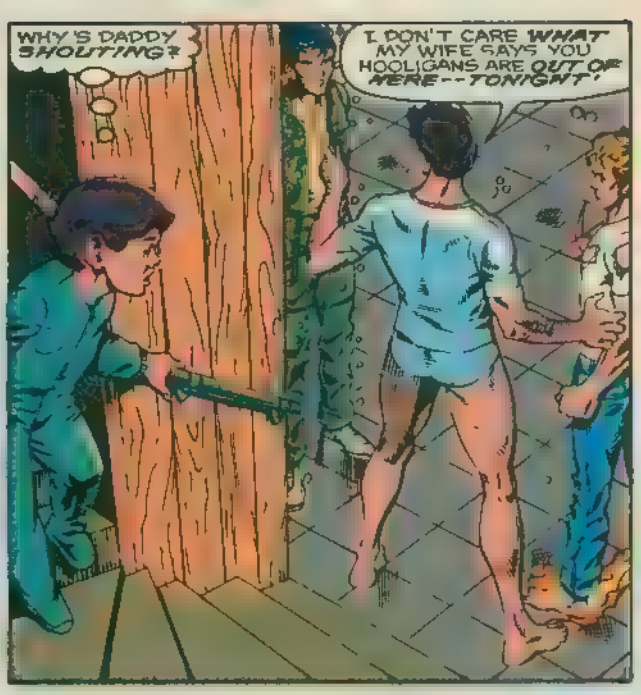
UAAH! CHEATER! PULLING MY HAIR--'

WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON DOWN HERE?

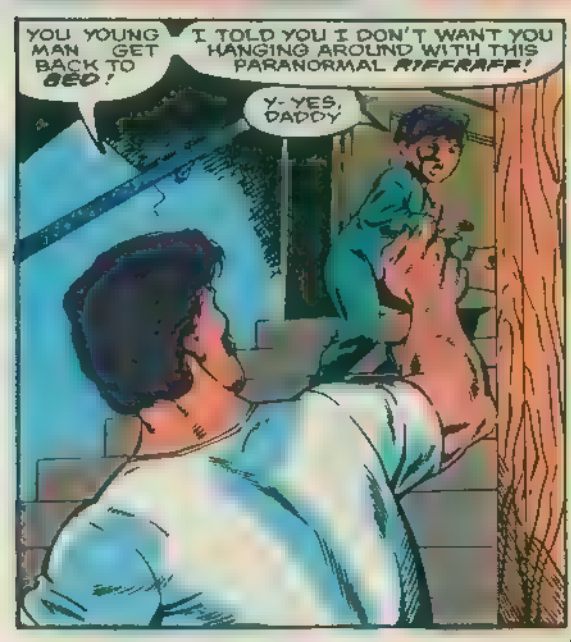
UH-OH! I TOLD YOU!

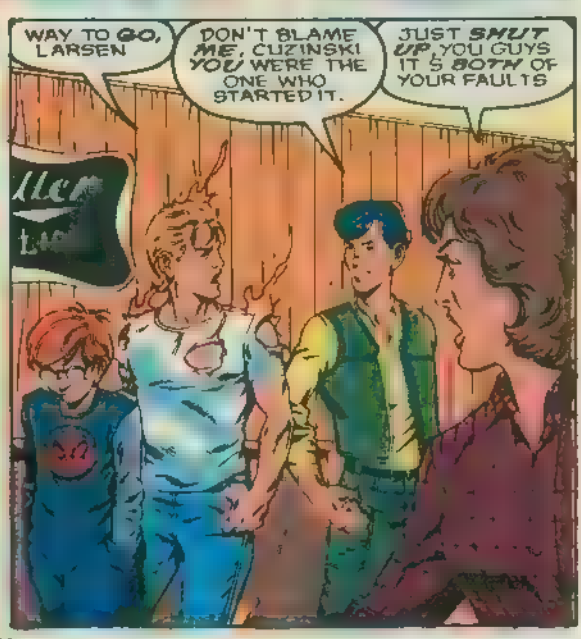
STOP

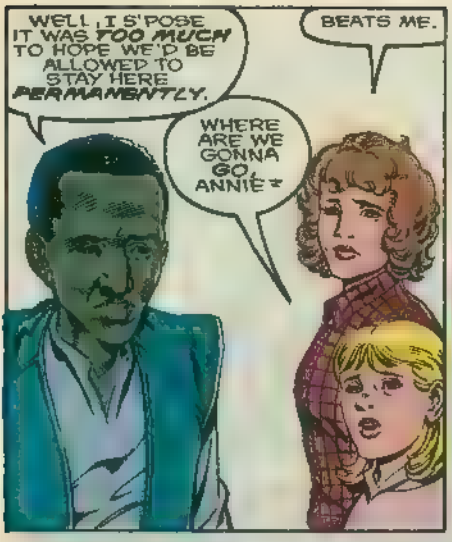
THAT'S IT, YOU PUNKS! I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH YOU!

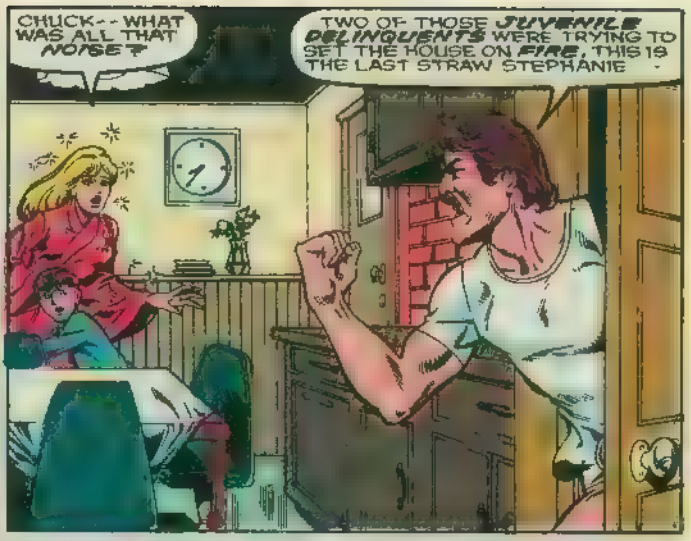

WHY'S DADDY SHOUTING?
I DON'T CARE WHAT MY WIFE SAYS YOU HOOLIGANS ARE OUT OF HERE--TONIGHT!

THAT GOES FOR ALL OF YOU! HEAR ME? NOW START PACKING!
STOP


YOU YOUNG MAN GET BACK TO BED!
I TOLD YOU I DON'T WANT YOU HANGING AROUND WITH THIS PARANORMAL RIFFRAFF!
Y-YES, DADDY


WAY TO GO, LARSEN
DON'T BLAME ME, CUZINSKI! YOU WERE THE ONE WHO STARTED IT.
JUST SHUT UP, YOU GUYS IT'S BOTH OF YOUR FAULTS

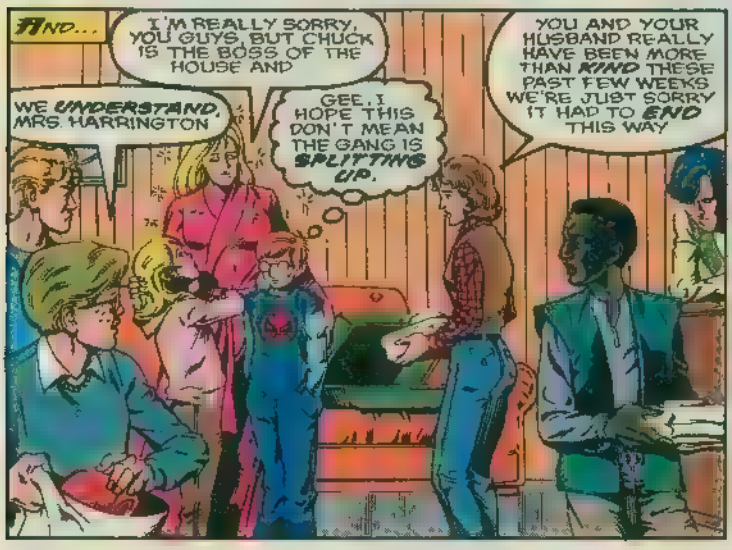

WELL, I S'POSE IT WAS TOO MUCH TO HOPE WE'D BE ALLOWED TO STAY HERE PERMANENTLY.
BEATS ME.
WHERE ARE WE GONNA GO ANNIE?


CHUCK--WHAT WAS ALL THAT NOISE?
TWO OF THOSE JUVENILE DELINQUENTS WERE TRYING TO SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE, THIS IS THE LAST STRAW STEPHANIE

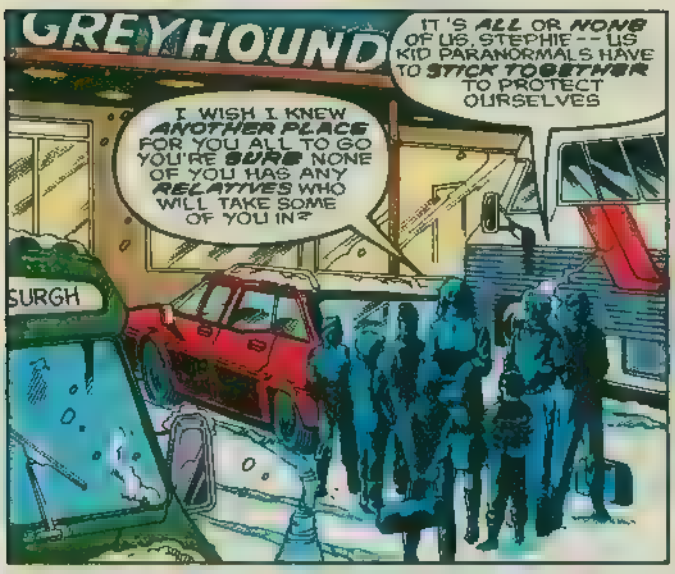
--I'VE BEEN VERY INDULGENT, LETTING THOSE ADOLESCENT "FRIENDS" OF YOURS HOLE UP DOWN THERE FOR OVER A MONTH, LEECHING OFF US AND ALL!
BUT IT'S GONE ON LONG ENOUGH! I WANT THEM OUT TONIGHT!

BUT THEY HAVE NOWHERE TO GO! THEY'RE ALL ORPHANS OR RUNAWAYS!
I DON'T GIVE A FLYING HOOT ANY MORE

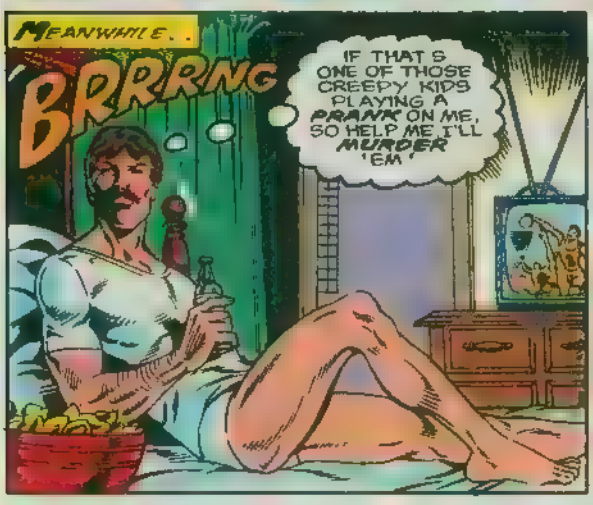
I...I HOPE I DON'T GET STEPHIE TOO MAD AT ME I STILL NEED HER SO, BUT ENOUGH'S ENOUGH ALREADY!

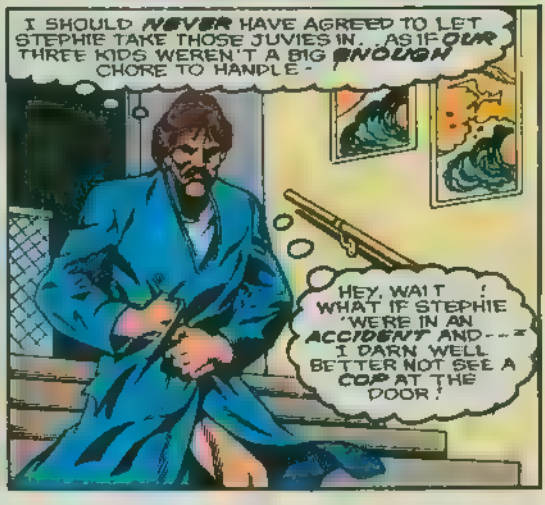

AND...
I'M REALLY SORRY, YOU GUYS, BUT CHUCK IS THE BOSS OF THE HOUSE AND
YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND REALLY HAVE BEEN MORE THAN KIND THESE PAST FEW WEEKS WE'RE JUST SORRY IT HAD TO END THIS WAY
WE UNDERSTAND, MRS. HARRINGTON
GEE, I HOPE THIS DON'T MEAN THE GANG IS SPLITTING UP.

YOU FINISH GATHERING UP YOUR BELONGINGS, I'LL PACK YOU ALL SOME SANDWICHES AND THEN I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE TO THE BUS STATION..."


GREYHOUND
IT'S ALL OR NONE OF US, STEPHIE -- US KID PARANORMALS HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER TO PROTECT OURSELVES
I WISH I KNEW ANOTHER PLACE FOR YOU ALL TO GO YOU'RE SURE NONE OF YOU HAS ANY RELATIVES WHO WILL TAKE SOME OF YOU IN?
SURGH

I HAVE A SPECIAL BOX THAT I KEEP MONEY FOR MY CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS HERE, YOU CAN USE IT FOR BUS TICKETS.
WE'LL PAY YOU BACK AS SOON AS WE GET JOBS, MRS H
I KNOW YOU WILL, MICHAEL


MEANWHILE..
BRRRNG
IF THAT'S ONE OF THOSE CREEPY KIDS PLAYING A PRANK ON ME, SO HELP ME I'LL MURDER 'EM!


I SHOULD NEVER HAVE AGREED TO LET STEPHIE TAKE THOSE JUVIES IN. AS IF OUR THREE KIDS WEREN'T A BIG ENOUGH CHORE TO HANDLE -
HEY, WAIT ! WHAT IF STEPHIE WERE IN AN ACCIDENT AND--? I DARN WELL BETTER NOT SEE A COP AT THE DOOR!

MR HARRINGTON? MAJOR EDWARD ZENTNER, ARMY INTELLIGENCE MAY I COME IN?
HUH--?

HEY, HAVEN'T I--?
YES, WE'VE MET BEFORE. I USED TO WORK FOR THE CLINIC. I WAS ONE OF THE MEN YOU CALLED TO COME GET YOUR WIFE
YEAH I RECOGNIZE YOU NOW WHAT DO YOU--
IS YOUR WIFE HOME, MR HARRINGTON? I HAVE A BUSINESS PROPOSITION TO MAKE HER

UH, NO. SHE'S.. SHE WENT OUT.
I'LL WAIT FOR HER THEN
UM, OKAY, LET ME UH, PUT ON SOME CLOTHES.
THE MAN SMELLS OF FEAR, ANXIETY... AND DISEASE. WHAT'S HIS STORY?

WHAT THE BLAZES COULD THIS ZENTNER GUY *WANT* WITH STEPHIE ANYWAY? IF HE'S WITH THE *ARMY*, ANY BUSINESS PROPOSITION HE HAS TO MAKE HER IS BOUND TO TAKE HER *AWAY* FROM ME!

I *CAN'T* LET THAT HAPPEN!

I MAY HAVE WANTED THAT CLINIC TO TAKE HER AWAY AND *CURE* HER OF HER *FREAKY POWERS* TWO YEARS AGO, BUT ALL THAT'S *CHANGED!* NOW I *LOVE* WHAT SHE IS--I COULDN'T *LIVE* WITHOUT HER!

COME ON, COME ON, WHERE'D SHE PUT MY *SWEATSHIRT?*

I'VE GOT TO *TALK* TO STEPHIE--*WARN* HER ABOUT HIM, MAKE SURE SHE KNOWS ENOUGH TO SAY NO TO WHATEVER HE PROPOSES!

I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE SHE *STANDS BY ME*--NO MATTER WHAT

AW, MAN--HOPE I DON'T *SLIP* AND BUST MY BUTT AGAIN!

DOWNSTAIRS...

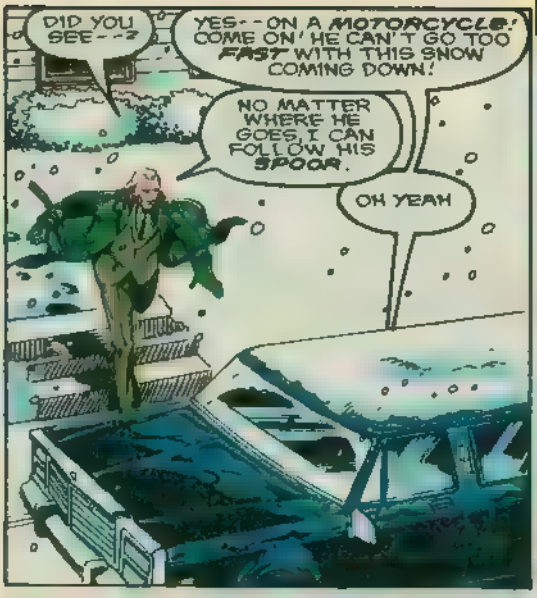
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL ALLOW THE HARRINGTON WOMAN TO *REFUSE* ME. HER PARABILITY IS SIMPLY TOO *VALUABLE* TO US. IF SHE BALKS AS I'M SURE SHE *WILL*, I'LL SIMPLY HAVE TO SEE TO IT HER *HUSBAND* IS DRAFTED..

RRM RRM
RROOMMM

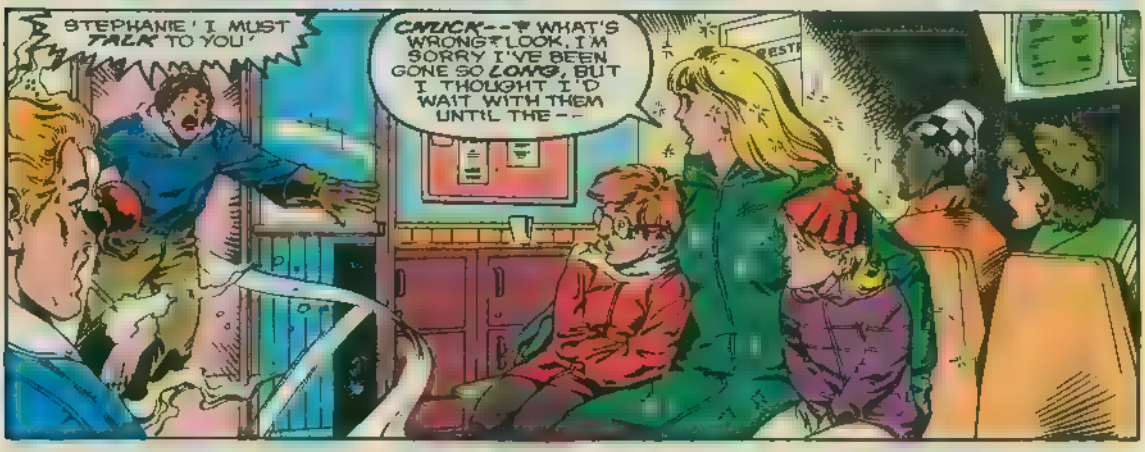
THAT *SOUND*--!

HARRINGTON--? ¿*SNIFF!*¿ HE'S GONE--!

I ONLY SMELL THE *CHILDREN*. HE MUST HAVE SLIPPED OUT AN UPSTAIRS *WINDOW!*

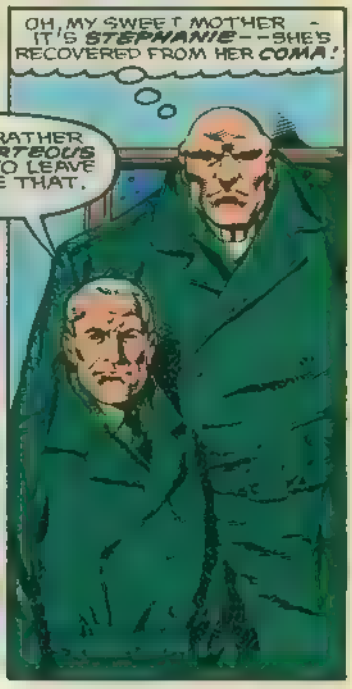

DID YOU SEE--?
YES--ON A MOTORCYCLE! COME ON! HE CAN'T GO TOO FAST WITH THIS SNOW COMING DOWN!
NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES, I CAN FOLLOW HIS SPOOR.
OH YEAH

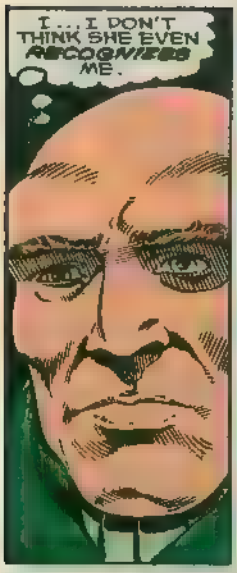
AND..
THANK GOD--THE STATION WAGON'S STILL HERE. I WAS AFRAID OUR PATHS MIGHT HAVE CROSSED ON THE WAY!
GREYHO


STEPHANIE! I MUST TALK TO YOU!
CHUCK--? WHAT'S WRONG? LOOK, I'M SORRY I'VE BEEN GONE SO LONG, BUT I THOUGHT I'D WAIT WITH THEM UNTIL THE--

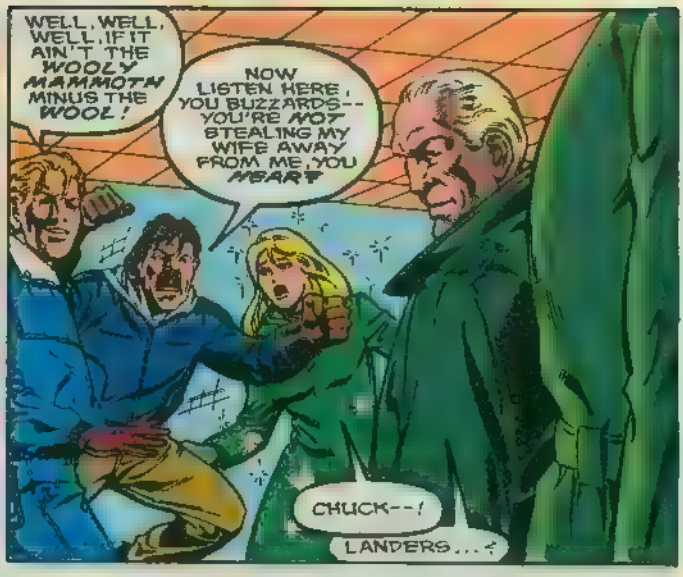
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT LOOK. REMEMBER THOSE GUYS THAT CAME TO THE HOUSE TO TAKE YOU AWAY THAT TIME? WELL, ONE OF EM'S BACK, AND HE'S WITH THE ARMY, AND I DIDN'T CALL HIM--REALLY. I THINK HE WANTS--

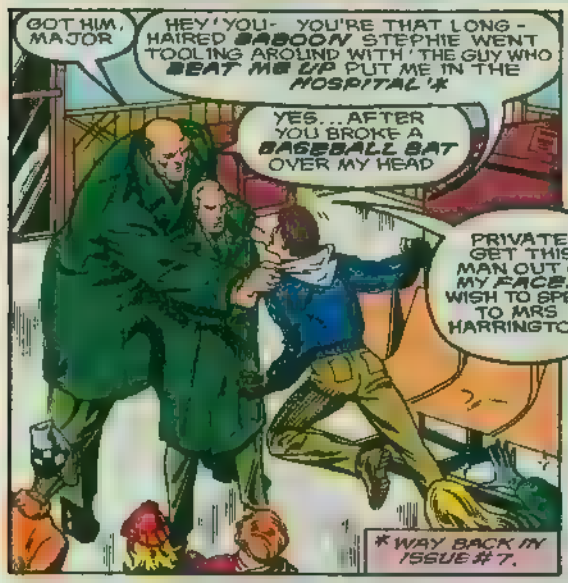
THERE YOU ARE, MR. AND MRS HARRINGTON
IT WAS RATHER DISCOURTEOUS OF YOU TO LEAVE ME LIKE THAT.

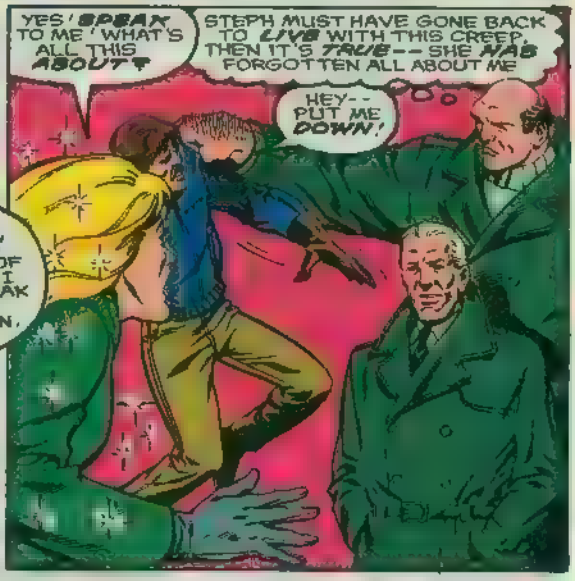

OH, MY SWEET MOTHER - IT'S STEPHANIE--SHE'S RECOVERED FROM HER COMA!

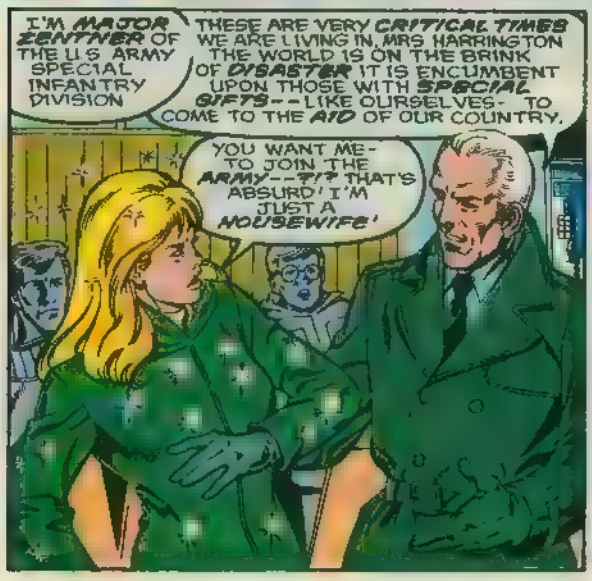

I... I DON'T THINK SHE EVEN RECOGNIZED ME.

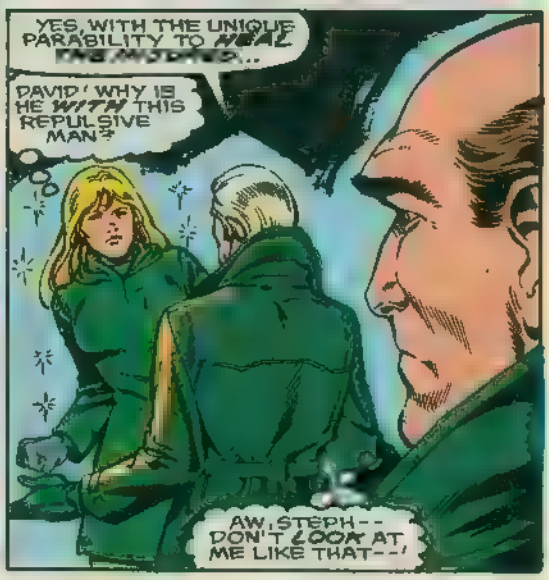
DAVID--? THAT'S DAVID!


WELL, WELL, WELL, IF IT AIN'T THE WOOLY MAMMOTH MINUS THE WOOL!
NOW LISTEN HERE, YOU BUZZARDS-- YOU'RE NOT STEALING MY WIFE AWAY FROM ME, YOU HEART
CHUCK--!
LANDERS...?


GOT HIM, MAJOR
HEY! YOU- YOU'RE THAT LONG-HAIRED BABOON STEPHIE WENT TOOLING AROUND WITH! THE GUY WHO BEAT ME UP PUT ME IN THE HOSPITAL!*
YES... AFTER YOU BROKE A BASEBALL BAT OVER MY HEAD
PRIVATE, GET THIS MAN OUT OF MY FACE. I WISH TO SPEAK TO MRS HARRINGTON.
*WAY BACK IN ISSUE #7.


YES! SPEAK TO ME! WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
STEPH MUST HAVE GONE BACK TO LIVE WITH THIS CREEP. THEN IT'S TRUE-- SHE HAS FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME
HEY-- PUT ME DOWN!


I'M MAJOR ZENTNER OF THE U.S. ARMY SPECIAL INFANTRY DIVISION
THESE ARE VERY CRITICAL TIMES WE ARE LIVING IN, MRS HARRINGTON THE WORLD IS ON THE BRINK OF DISASTER IT IS ENCUMBENT UPON THOSE WITH SPECIAL GIFTS-- LIKE OURSELVES- TO COME TO THE AID OF OUR COUNTRY.
YOU WANT ME- TO JOIN THE ARMY--?! THAT'S ABSURD! I'M JUST A HOUSEWIFE!


YES, WITH THE UNIQUE PARABILITY TO HEAL THE WOUNDED...
DAVID! WHY IS HE WITH THIS REPULSIVE MAN?
AW, STEPH-- DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT--!

I JUST CAME ALONG FOR THE CHANCE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SEE IF YOU WERE OKAY, SEE IF... IF I HAD ANY REASON TO GO ON HOPING THAT...
NO, THAT'S NOT IT. THE REAL REASON I CAME WAS TO HELP TALK YOU INTO ENLISTING-- SO YOU'D BE FORCED TO BE WITH ME AGAIN.
YOU CAN SEE THAT BY LOOKING AT ME, CAN'T YOU?
MAN, I'M SUCH POND SCUM!
WHAAP
HUH--?
NNNNHULL!
STEPHIE, DON'T LISTEN TO WHAT HE SAID-- YOU DON'T WANT TO BE IN THE ARMY--IT'S TERRIBLE! THEY'RE PLANNING TO SEND OUR KIND OVERSEAS TO FIGHT AND DIE IN SOME KIND OF INSANE WAR!
YOU'VE GOT TO RUN, YOU AND CHUCK. YOU'VE GOT TO GET AWAY, FLEE THE COUNTRY--! TAKE YOUR FAMILY AND GO!
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU--? WHAT WILL--
I DON'T MATTER. YOU DO. YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE YOURSELF, STEPHIE-- PLEASE!
BUT LIFE ON THE RUN AGAIN--? I HATED LIVING LIKE THAT!
IT WOULD BE OKAY, BABE. I'D BE WITH YOU THIS TIME, I'D MAKE IT OKAY!
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT BIG APE CHANGED HIS MIND, BUT LET'S GET THE HECK OUT OF HERE BEFORE HE CHANGES IT AGAIN!!
BUT I--
IT'S THE ONLY WAY, STEPH--
--THE ONLY WAY FOR US TO REMAIN A FAMILY!

DAVID, I--I WANT YOU TO--
COME ON--! YOU'VE GOT THE CAR KEYS!

SO, DAVE--YOU'RE REALLY IN THE ARMY, HUH?
YEAH. DON'T WORRY. SOON AS YOU HIT 18, YOU'RE GOING TO BE, TOO. COUNT ON IT, KID.
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?

WHEN THE CLINIC CLOSED DOWN, ME AND THE DDTEENS SHOWED UP AT STEPH'S HOUSE, AND SHE AND HER OLD MAN TOOK US IN...
...TILL TONIGHT ANYWAY, WHEN THAT BUTTFACE SHE'S MARRIED TO KICKED US OUT.
SAY, SCUZZ...DO ME A FAVOR. GO AFTER STEPH, ASK TO TAG ALONG WHERE SHE'S GOING, AND LOOK AFTER HER FOR ME.

YOU NUTS? HER OLD MAN KICKED US OUT. YOU STILL HOT FOR HER. WHY DON'T YOU TAG ALONG?
IT CAN'T WORK WITH ME. NOT WITH HER HUSBAND IN THE PICTURE.
IT'S A GOOD IDEA, SCUZZ! I'LL BET YOU ANYTHING THE OLD MAN WILL WANT US AROUND TO PROTECT HIM WHILE HE RUNS TO CANADA!
WELL, ALL RIGHT... BEATS TAKING THE BUS, I GUESS.

SEE YA AROUND, DAVEY!
MOVE IT, YOU FEEBS! WE GOT SOME RUNNING TO DO!
NO WAY IS OLD MAN HARRINGTON GONNA AGREE TO TAKE THE SEVEN OF US ALONG WITH HIS WIFE AND THREE KIDS--WE'D NEVER ALL FIT IN HIS STATION WAGON!
BUT IF HE'S GONNA ABANDON HIS BLEEPING HOUSE, WE CAN ALL STAY THERE!

WELL, I SURE WENT AND DID IT THIS TIME. STRIKING A SUPERIOR OFFICER IS HIGH ON THE LIST OF NO-NO'S. I WISH I COULD HAVE RUN OFF WITH STEPH--WONDER WHAT SHE'D HAVE SAID IF I'D ASKED HER TO GO WITH ME. NO, I DON'T REALLY WANT TO KNOW.
WELL, IF THIS DOESN'T KEEP ME FROM BEING SENT OVERSEAS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL.

FIVE MINUTES LATER...
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU RAN OFF AND LEFT THE CHILDREN UNATTENDED, CHUCK! WHERE WAS YOUR BRAIN?
WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO, HONEY? HOW ELSE COULD I HAVE -- OH-OH!
DON'T WORRY, STEPHANIE. YOUR CHILDREN ARE SAFE, SLEEPING LIKE ANGELS.
LENORE--!!!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE, YOU MAY BE WONDERING. WELL, I'VE COME WITH A BUSINESS PROPOSITION...
NEXT: THE DECISION

PARANORMAL MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP — 387 Park Avenue South - New York, NY - 10016
Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Disgruntled Party of 7,

I have just read D.P. 7 #18, and I want to tell you that this is one of your best issues yet! Jeff's compassion for his loved ones is shown (for the umpteenth time), and Mutator is again spotlighted (which I think should be repeated again and again). I especially loved it when Charly sealed Indigo's eyes shut and when it was revealed that Lenore had run for nearly a week to burn off the extra energy built up stopping the riot. I did not like the emphasis placed on Merriam ("Sponge") Sorenson. I would like it if you were to try not to do this again in the future. What is Mutator's violent streak? Also, would you please bring back Stephanie?

In the future, I would like to see more of Pam Truesdale, Mutator, Dwight, Jerome, and Scrap Iron. I'd like to see more of the same with Randy and company, Dave Landers, Charly, Jeff and Scuzz. I'd like to see *less* of Lenore, Indigo, Sponge (definitely), and the DDTeens. Where was Dr. Semple in #18?

Please try to show more individual exploits of the Antibodies. Until the Black Event, Make Mine Marvel!

David Horan
(Address withheld by request)
Richardson, TX 75081

Oh-oh. We've been calling the Pittsburgh disaster "The Black Event," David. Does that mean you're not making yours ours anymore? Thanks for your input on the paranormals you like and don't like. You'll be getting some of your wishes. Oh, yes — Dr. Semple must have had the day off in #18.

Dear D.P. 7,

It's going to be interesting to see what effects on the New Universe the destruction of Pittsburgh will have. Will people be scared of paranormals like they are of mutants in X-Men, X-Factor, etc.? I hope you don't go into the mutant books' footsteps and have everyone afraid of paranormals. It's not original and it's becoming overly used. I know you can come up with something better, but it's going to be interesting to see what, for if some "super-powered" person destroyed a city, I sure wouldn't trust any paranormals, or people with any powers at all for that matter.

I have been disturbed about one thing and I'm hoping you can clear it up for me. Since Scuzz, Charly, and some other paranormals are teens, wouldn't they technically be classified as mutants rather than paranormals? I mean, since mutants get their powers fully manifested in their adolescence, wouldn't the teens be mutants instead of paranormals. By definition paranormal means you receive your powers at any time in your life, but mutant means you receive your powers in adolescence, so couldn't that mean the teens are mutants?

Until next time, NUKE ME WITH THE NEW!

Richard Garcia
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Satellite Beach, FL 32937

You've got your definition of a mutant a bit hazy, Richard. A mutant is *not* someone whose powers fully manifest in adolescence — a mutant is someone whose powers (or other traits not found in his/her parents) are present at *birth* but sometimes do not manifest themselves until adolescence (Nightcrawler and the Beast had their unique traits since birth). Paranormals were not paranormal at birth, and had no known genetic predisposition for the paranormality they got. All clear, pal?

Dear Mark,

Before I get to my comments concerning D.P. 7 #18 I would like to congratulate you and everyone involved with "The PITT." I loved the bookshelf format and the story and art was just fantastic. Although Jennifer Swensen and her MAX suit were never one of my favorite characters in the New Universe, she played a very logical and convincing role in the PITT storyline.

The PITT was also very significant since I was born and raised in a small anthracite mining community in Pennsylvania just north and east of blast area. Seeing names of towns so familiar to me made the story much more interesting and believable.

Several months ago I had the good fortune to make a side trip to Winslow, Arizona and view the Barringer meteorite crater. It was formed some 22,000 years ago when an iron-nickel meteor collided with the Earth and left a crater 4150 feet in diameter and 570 feet in depth. The sight is very awe-inspiring, especially from the air and it's a shame that everyone couldn't make a trip to see it before reading the PITT. It really enhanced my feel for the devastation done by the Starbrand.

Anyway, this letter is to D.P. 7 and I did promise to get around to some comments concerning issue #18. I was getting a bit tired of all of the para-teams running around the clinic and this issue was a nice change of pace. I'm glad to see that you are gathering most of the original group together again. I like the addition of Mutator and Sponge. Sponge has got to have one of the strangest paranormalities I have ever seen and she sure makes me laugh everytime she uses her powers. I'm also glad to see that it looks like Stephanie is finally going to come out of her coma. I hope you have some definite plans for her. What about her husband and family? Will Stephie ever get her children back? If you don't have any plans for her, maybe you could have her come out of her coma cured and return her to her family. That would really screw things up for Dave. Things are really starting to look up for all of the New Universe titles. D.P. 7 has always been my favorite and it looks like things are only going to get better. Good luck in the future to everyone involved with D.P. 7.

Charles S. Novinskie
415 30 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81504

We're doing what we can to get the original seven all back together, Charles, but it's difficult. Jeff's gung ho for the military . . . Scuzz wants to stay leader of the DDTeens . . . and Stephanie just wants her family. Keep watching, though . . . we think you'll like the ultimate team of seven that evolves out of it all.

Dear Marvel:

One of the things you said would take place after the disaster was that the draft would be reactivated and be used to segregate paranormals from ordinary people. After which, the paranormals would be sent to "relocation and training facilities."

I'm curious how this could happen in real life. The United States doesn't own anybody. How does the government intend to keep the paranormals under control? People like Twilight, Bazooka, and Dynamite could wipe out entire divisions in seconds (I doubt that the Army trains its soldiers to fight these type of people), and what about people like Scorcher, Indigo, Tangler, and Freefall? Those people don't take kindly to being told what to do (we're quite aware of Indigo's bossy, if not paranoid, attitude towards the world). What's to keep the paranormals from starting another civil war? It'll just be a matter of time until they learn that the government only wants to use them like any other weapon they think they can use or discard as they see fit.

In addition, even if the government manages to "round-up" the paranormals, how do they plan to keep them under control? Up until now, only another paranormal can cancel or neutralize another paranormal. This isn't X-MEN where we have some death ray that renders them harmless. God help the Drill Sergeant who thinks a paranormal is going to ask, "How high?" when he tells him to jump.

There are many other questions I would like to ask, but what I've mentioned is my primary concern. You've done a very good job with all of your New Universe titles (especially my favorites JUSTICE and D.P. 7), and I look forward to the upcoming issues. I'm certain that you will bring all of these factors together in a manner that will make the stories very intriguing in the months to come.

Michael A. Cericola
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Miramar, FL 33023

With any luck, Michael, THE DRAFT graphic album (still on sale) and various other New U books will have answered most of your questions about how the draft worked *vis-a-vis* paranormals. If there weren't paranormals such as Sgt. Haldeman already part of the military, discipline within the paranormal platoon would have been a bigger nightmare than it was at the Clinic! Let us know what you thought of THE DRAFT, okay?

Gentlemen,

I've been following D.P. 7 since issue #1, and thoroughly enjoy it. D.P. 7 is the only comic I buy regularly, and I buy a lot of comics!!

How about keeping the poor little *Mutator* guy in with the group? I've just read issue #18, and I can't help feeling sorry for him and his problems with acceptance by the others. Keep him in the background and we'll keep feeling sorry for him. How much can (does) he mutate? What can he do to help others? Keep up the great stories!

Dwight D. Hunnicutt
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Mutator fans seem to be busting out all over. Though ol' Mutey has taken a powder from these pages for the time being, you'll be able to catch him in a solo featurette in PSI-FORCE #22, scripted by none other than humble Howard M. and edited by myopic Mark G. (How's that for a switcheroo?) Don't worry, Mutator isn't gone from these pages for good.